

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**2005-2010**

**Amended 4-30-05**

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY  
POST OFFICE BOX 110  
1 COURTHOUSE CIRCLE  
CUMBERLAND, VIRGINIA 23404**

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## **I. Introduction**

### **A. The Comprehensive Plan**

The Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan is an official statement of policy, adopted by the Cumberland County Board of Supervisors, providing guidance for the future physical development of all aspects of the County, both public and private.

The Comprehensive Plan serves several functions. Perhaps the most fundamental function is that the Comprehensive Plan is the official vision for the future of the County, as formulated through the collective ideas, opinions and aspirations of the many stakeholders within the county. The Comprehensive Plan describes this vision through its goals and objectives for the future as well as through maps and other exhibits designed for that purpose.

Comprehensive Plan stakeholders would include the County's political leadership, its administrative personnel, its planning commission, its school board, other agencies or organizations with interests in the county, the farming community, the business and industry community, homeowners, property owners, and the citizens in general. Because there are many stakeholders with correspondingly different perspectives, the vision of the Comprehensive Plan is, by necessity, a compromise resulting from reasonable consensus of County stakeholders.

The Comprehensive Plan also serves as a compendium for useful information on the County. This information can include descriptive information and statistical information on many different aspects of the County, its lands, its people, and all aspects of its development. This information serves to inventory or document what exists at a given point in time.

Implied by the title, the Comprehensive Plan is indeed intended to be comprehensive in nature and extends to all physical aspects of the County, including its people and lands, its transportation systems, agriculture, forestry, housing, commercial, industry, community facilities and services, cultural resources.

Also by necessity, the Comprehensive Plan is general in nature. The Code of Virginia states that the Plan shall *“designate the general or approximate location, character, and extent of each feature shown on the plan and shall indicate where existing lands or facilities are proposed to be extended, widened, removed, relocated, vacated, narrowed, abandoned or changed in use as the case may be.”*

The Code of Virginia Section 15,2-2223 further provides that the Comprehensive Plan *“may include, but need not be limited to”* a number of categories of information including:

- 1. The designation of areas for various types of public and private development and use, such as different kinds of residential, business, industrial, agricultural,*

- mineral resources, conservation reaction, public service, flood plain and drainage, and other areas;*
2. *The designation of a system of transportation facilities such as streets, roads, highways, parkways, railways, bridges, viaducts, waterways, airports, ports, terminals, and other facilities;*
  3. *The designation of a system of community service facilities such as parks, forests, schools, playgrounds, public buildings, and institutions, hospitals, community centers, waterworks, sewage disposal or waste disposal areas, and the like;*
  4. *The designation of historical areas and areas for urban renewal and other treatment;*
  5. *The designation of areas for the implementation of reasonable ground water protection measures;*
  6. *An official map, a capital improvements program, a subdivision ordinance, a zoning ordinance and zoning district maps, mineral resource district maps and agricultural and forestall district maps, where applicable and*
  7. *The location of existing or proposed recycling centers.*

In addition the Code of Virginia stipulates that the Comprehensive Plan “...shall include the designation of areas and implementation of measures for the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of affordable housing, which is sufficient to meet the current and future needs of residents of all levels of income in the locality while considering the current and future needs of the planning district within which the locality is situated.”

Within these broad guidelines, Cumberland County, including the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, has broad discretion to develop and maintain a Comprehensive Plan document that is appropriate to the County’s unique characteristics, challenges, aspirations and needs.

## **B. Enabling Legislation**

Virginia law requires that all cities, towns and counties of the Commonwealth of Virginia prepare, adopt and maintain a comprehensive plan. Code of Virginia Section 15.2-2223, states in part:

*“The local planning commission shall prepare and recommend a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the territory within its jurisdiction and every governing body shall adopt a comprehensive plan for the territory under its jurisdiction.”*

Once a comprehensive plan is adopted it is subject to review every five years thereafter. Code of Virginia Section 15.2-2230 states that:

*“At least once every five years the comprehensive plan shall be reviewed by the local planning commission to determine whether it is advisable to amend the plan.”*

**C. Developing a New Comprehensive Plan for Cumberland County**

The Cumberland County Board of Supervisors adopted its most recent Comprehensive Plan in September of 2000. The plan contains information on land use, population, employment, economic trends and future land use and thoroughfares. In March of 2004, and in response to a request for proposals from the County, The Piedmont Planning District Commission (PPDC) submitted a proposal to revise the County's Comprehensive Plan. In June of 2004, the PPDC was awarded a contract to revise the plan.

Through assistance provided by the PPDC, the Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan was updated in four phases. These four phases are as follows:

Phase One:

Introduction: The Comprehensive Plan  
Enabling Legislation  
A Brief History of Cumberland County  
Cumberland County Today  
Revising the Comprehensive Plan

Phase Two:

Inventory and Analysis: Resources and Trends  
Population  
Education  
Income  
Commutation Patterns  
Unemployment/Employment  
Land Use and Development Patterns  
Housing Resources  
Transportation  
Natural Resources  
Community Facilities and Services

Phase Three:

Inventory and Analysis: Resources and Trends  
Future Land Use Plan and Map

Phase Four:

Goals and Objectives  
Capital Improvement Program

The following section summarizes the process that was undertaken by the Planning Commission and the Cumberland County Planning Commission for the development of the Comprehensive Plan and final adoption by the Cumberland County Board of Supervisors:

- Piedmont Planning District Commission (PPDC) staff held meetings with Andrew Evans, County Planner, and various members of the Planning Commission on the following dates/locations:
  - o April 30, 2004, at the PPDC office

- July 19, 2004, at the PPDC office
  - March 28, 2005, at the Cumberland County Zoning Office
- Those present at the meetings discussed issues that should be addressed in the plan, and went over draft sections that were completed.

- Public meetings were held by the Planning Commission on the following dates/locations, to present Plan materials and gather input:
  - November 4, 2004, at the Cartersville Rescue Squad/Community Center
  - November 11, 2004, at the Cumberland Elementary School cafeteria
  - November 18, 2004, at the Cumberland County Rescue Squad/Community Center
  - December 2, 2004, at the Cartersville Rescue Squad/Community Center

Announcements for these meetings were published in the *Farmville Herald* and the *Cumberland Bulletin*. A total of 43 people attended these meetings.

- The Cumberland County Board of Supervisors discussed the Comprehensive Plan at meetings on April 7, 2004, and Sept. 14, 2004.

#### **D. Methods for Identifying Issues**

A range of major issues facing the County now and in the future has been identified. Review and analysis of these issues by the public, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors provided the basis for establishing planning goals and policies for this Comprehensive Plan. For a more detailed review of all the input received from the issue identification methods, please refer to the Appendix materials.

The major issues outlined in this Plan were identified through the following methods:

1. ***A written survey of citizen opinion- Not sure if you want to do this one. I realize Andrew and Dr. Berger were trying to avoid this, so I can take it out if we decide not to.***
2. ***A written survey of identified County stakeholders- Again, I know Andrew and Dr. Berger were not planning on questionnaires, but I stuck it in here just in case. It can be taken out easily enough.***
3. ***Public Meetings*** – Throughout 2004 and 2005, public meetings were held for citizens to offer their opinions about the issues facing Cumberland County, and to create a vision for the future of the County. The meetings, which were advertised in local newspapers and radio, were held at various locations in the County. Please see the Appendix for more information on the public meetings.

*A combined total of 43 citizens attended these meetings. These meetings provided useful input for developing the Joint Comprehensive Plan.*

4. Research and analysis of available technical data- The Piedmont Planning District Commission collected and analyzed data on a range of aspects on Cumberland County. These analyzed elements included land use patterns, environmental features, transportation conditions, population growth trends and capital facility needs. Much of this information is contained in this Plan and has helped to further enhance the understanding of many of the issues identified by local citizens during the other efforts described above.
5. Discussion with the Planning Commission- The Cumberland County Planning Commission held \_\_\_\_\_ work sessions from June 2004 through June 2005. During these meetings, the Planning Commission reviewed the citizen input and technical information and contributed its own analysis of the issues presented.

#### **E. A Brief History of Cumberland County**

The history of what is now known to be Cumberland County begins in 1748 or 1749 (depending on source), when territories were split off of Goochland and named “Cumberland County”, in honor of the Duke of Cumberland, the second son of King George II, and a popular English hero of the day. This initial designation of Cumberland County is not the same Cumberland County existing today in shape or land area, but is the first use of the name “Cumberland County.”

Many years prior to the formation of Cumberland County and not long after the founding of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in America, in 1607, the Virginia colony was divided into eight counties or shires in 1634. One of those original eight counties was Henrico. At that time all of Henrico was a vast area and was reported to have a population of only 419 citizens. Henrico County of that time included territories, that were subsequently subdivided to become other counties, including what was to eventually become Cumberland County.

Ninety-three years latter, Henrico was divided into two sections, the north part continuing to be known as Henrico County, and the south part being named Goochland County, after William Gooch, the Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia from 1727 until 1749. Goochland County included an indefinitely defined territory but included what is now recognized as Albemarle, Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Nelson and Powhatan.

After Albemarle was earlier split off from Goochland, what was to be named Cumberland County was split off from Goochland in 1748 or 1749. This initial area to be known as Cumberland County included all of what is today known as today’s Cumberland County



plus other territories that include today's Powhatan County. This land configuration remained in place until 1777.

In 1777, owing to the "*great inconveniences attending the inhabitants of the county of Cumberland, by the great extent thereof,*" Cumberland was divided into two parts generally corresponding to two existing parishes. Southam Parish, in the east became Powhatan County. Littleton Parish became Cumberland County.

The following year, in 1778, a small portion of Buckingham County was added to Cumberland County by act of the Virginia General Assembly. With this minor adjustment, the boundaries of modern day Cumberland County were fixed, to define what is known today as Cumberland County.

In the early years prior to the development of formal roads, much of the transportation within the County was water based, with the Willis River and the James River being the main links to points west and east and especially to communities on the Atlantic Ocean.

Early roads followed the ridges and drainage patterns with the destination being the main rivers. Through this early transportation network, export raw materials and produce and import finished goods flowed. Later, by 1776, the old "Buck and Game Trail," later called the "Carolina Road" extended through nearly the length of the County northward towards the nation's capitol in Washington.

Settlement of what is now known as Cumberland County dates to as early as 1723 when Thomas Randolph recorded a patent for 2870 acres on the "Willis Creek." Other more permanent communities were soon to follow. Along the main roads, there developed a series of taverns offering travelers food, commodities, shelter and social life. These taverns became the nuclei for the first communities in Cumberland County.

One of these taverns was "Effington," which was located across from the Cumberland Courthouse building. This location is now in the center of what is known as Cumberland Courthouse village.

Cumberland Courthouse, the county seat, dates from about 1748, the date when Cumberland County was split off of Goochland County. This community is in the approximate geographic center of the County and has been an important center of activity continuously from at least that date to the present times. Cumberland Courthouse village is an unincorporated area, holding no official local government status, and is only generally defined geographically as the developed area around the County governmental center. This community presently has a population of approximately 300 people.

At "Effington" in Cumberland Courthouse, Carter Henry Harrison read one of the first calls for the independence in the colonies on April 22, 1776. John Mayo and William Fleming subsequently presented this statement to the Virginia Convention. This initial call for independence, soon joined by other voices, lead to the Declaration of

Independence. George Walton, who was born in Cumberland County, signed this seminal document in the history of the United States.

Other notable personalities of the colonial era, including Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and John Randolph were frequent guests in the tavern at the site in Cumberland Courthouse village. Lafayette, noted French military, political and revolutionary war era leader, also visited this community.

Cartersville, also an important unincorporated village, is located in the northern part of Cumberland County on the James River. Originally the Virginia General Assembly established the site of Carter's Ferry as a village in 1790. The original village was comprised of 27 acres of land formerly owned by John Woodson served by a main street called High Street. High Street still exists today, as does the thriving small community.

Just one mile to the southeast of Cartersville on Route 659, the small community of Tamworth was established in about 1792, with the opening of a community store. In the years that followed, a thriving community grew. This store, still remaining today, once housed a post office. This store has been preserved and is currently furnished with antiques and collectables.

Also a small community named Clinton emerged about 1790, at about the intersection of today's Route 60 and Route 654. This community at one time consisted of approximately 30 homes, two stores, a gristmill, carriage shop and four blacksmith shops and a post office.

Both Tamworth and Clinton are still marked on road maps but are all but vanished with only a few of the older structures still standing.

The largest community in Cumberland County today is the Town of Farmville. Farmville, established in 1798, is located on the Appomattox River with portions of the incorporated territories located in both Prince Edward County and Cumberland County. In the year 2000, the Cumberland portion of the Town of Farmville was reported to be 477 persons, while the remaining 6,368 persons were located south of the Appomattox in Prince Edward County.

Farmville is also the largest community in the Piedmont Planning District, and home of Longwood University, Southside Community Hospital, the county seat for Prince Edward County, a large historic downtown commercial district, many outlying commercial and industrial developments, and a number of significant residential neighborhoods.

Over the past two hundred plus years, Cumberland County has remained rural in character, with relatively stable population. The census of 1790, the earliest available, reports that Cumberland County had a total population of 8,153 persons. By 1830 the population had increased to 11,690 persons, the "high water mark" of population. By the 2000 census, the population of Cumberland County was reported to be 9,017 persons.

**F. Cumberland County Today**

Cumberland County today is one of Virginia's ninety-five (95) counties. It comprises the territories that were settled on as a result of the 1778 act of the Virginia General Assembly adding a small portion of Buckingham County to Cumberland County. In approximate terms, Cumberland County measures 33 miles from the north to the south and 12 miles from the west to the east.

Cumberland County is located in central Virginia with excellent access to several of Virginia's leading cities including Richmond, Virginia's capitol city, 50 miles to the east, Lynchburg 60 miles to the west, and Charlottesville 40 miles to the north. Also, the nation's Capitol, Washington D.C. is located approximately 120 miles to the northeast.

The current boundaries defining Cumberland County include the Appomattox River on the south, separating Cumberland County from the counties of Amelia and Prince Edward. On the north, the James River separates Cumberland County from the counties of Fluvanna and Goochland. The west and east boundaries separating Cumberland County from the counties of Buckingham and Powhatan are, more or less, straight surveyed lines not corresponding to physical features. These boundaries contain a land area of 298.5 square miles.

In year 2000, the U.S. Census reported Cumberland County's population to be 9,017 persons. The most recent estimates (2002) show the population at 9,200 persons. This results in a population density of 30 persons per square mile, a decidedly sparse population when compared with the average density of Virginia at 174 persons per square mile.

Today, the majority (about 71 percent) of Cumberland's workforce works outside of Cumberland County in neighboring jurisdictions. Some of the main work destinations include Prince Edward County (about 18 percent), Chesterfield County (about 13 percent), Henrico County (about 8 percent), the City of Richmond (about 7 percent), Buckingham County (about 7 percent) and Powhatan County (about 6 percent).

Cumberland County's location in the Mid-Atlantic States region, so near to the nation's capitol, Atlantic Ocean, the Port of Hampton Roads, and a significant cluster of the U.S. population, suggests that the County will experience significant population growth in the next two decades.

To accommodate this inevitable growth, Cumberland County will need to put into place a vision and accompanying goals and objectives so that the best interests of all of its citizens, current and future, are well served.

## **II. Inventory and Analysis**

### **A. Introduction**

The County of Cumberland is rural in character, covering an area of 296 square miles, with sparsely developed residences, community businesses and churches, interspersed in a gently rolling, central piedmont landscape. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the total population is 9,017. The County has one (1) incorporated area – the Town of Farmville, which extends into southern Cumberland County.

Cumberland County, largely agricultural, is known for its red clay and climate suited to various crops, mainly tobacco – which has been the County’s principal cash crop for years (Today, chicken and cattle are the predominate money makers for farmers). This red clay also was beneficial for building, resulting in the historic courthouse and many of its ante-bellum homes and chimneys being constructed of hand-kilned bricks from native soil.

### **B. Population**

The population section of the Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan includes an analysis of the population characteristics of the County. Population analysis often concentrates on increases or decreases in population. Other important factors include changes in characteristics (age, sex and race), rate of growth and the distribution, which can affect planning for a community. Population trends affect land use, housing, community facilities and other aspects of community development.

The following section on population attempts to review the most current information available to analyze its significance.

#### **Past Population Trends**

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Cumberland County has a population of 9,017. The 1990 U.S. Census for the County reported a total of 7,825 persons. This represents a population increase of 1,192 persons or 15.2% since 1990.

<b>TABLE</b> <b>Past Population Trends</b> <b>Cumberland County</b>			
<u><b>Year</b></u>	<u><b>Total Population</b></u>	<u><b>Number Change</b></u>	<u><b>Percent Change</b></u>
1940	7,505	---	---
1950	7,252	- 253	3.4%
1960	6,360	- 892	- 12.3%
1970	6,179	- 181	- 2.8%
1980	7,881	+ 1,702	+ 27.5%
1990	7,825	- 56	- 0.7%
2000	9,017	+ 1,192	+ 15.2%
<b>Source: 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population</b>			

<b>TABLE</b> <b>Past Population</b> <b>Cumberland County, Region and State</b>					
<u><b>Place</b></u>	<u><b>1960</b></u>	<u><b>1970</b></u>	<u><b>1980</b></u>	<u><b>1990</b></u>	<u><b>2000</b></u>
<b>Cumberland County</b>	6,360	6,179	7,881	7,825	9,017
<b>Piedmont PDC</b>	80,205	77,060	83,549	84,905	97,103
<b>State</b>	3,954,429	4,651,448	5,346,818	6,187,358	7,078,515
<b>Source: 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population</b>					

### **Population Change Factors**

There are many factors that affect population change. There are three ways in which a locality can experience population increase. The first is through having more births than deaths in a given period of time (See Table     ). The second is when more people migrate into than immigrate out of an area. Finally, the most common way is a combination of both factors.

**TABLE  
Births and Deaths  
Cumberland County, Virginia**

<u><b>Year</b></u>	<u><b>Births</b></u>	<u><b>Deaths</b></u>
1990	124	70
1991	107	87
1992	107	75
1993	109	86
1994	108	78
1995	101	93
1996	99	98
1997	112	94
1998	106	98
1999	83	111
2000	90	91
2001	107	68
2002	101	74

**Source: Virginia Department of Health, Vital Statistics Annual Report, 1990-2002**

From 1990 to 2002, the number of births averaged approximately 104 per year, while the death rate averaged approximately 86 per year. Considering the birth rate average is higher than the death rate average, it can be predicted that the County will have an increase in population in future years.

### **Age and Sex Characteristics**

By analyzing the population's gender characteristics and age groupings, it is possible to evaluate the needs for community facility requirements, commercial services and housing demand (See Table     ).

Between 1990 and 2000, there occurred an increase of 167 persons between the ages of 5 and 17 (see Table     ). This groups represents future residents and leaders of the County. Also, there was an increase of 99 persons 60 to 64 years and an increase of the same amount for the 65-to-74 age group. The proceeding age brackets of 75 to 84 years

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and 85 years and older increased by six and 21 individuals, respectively. The rise in the number of people 75 and over raises their service demand. For example, the senior population may need additional health care, recreation facilities and low cost housing.

Another important population characteristic to point out includes the increase that the County experienced from 1990 to 2000 for persons between the ages of 45 and 54. This group represents the established resident working force available for the County, as well as major consumers. That group increased by 347 persons. The one age group that saw a decline during this period is age 18 to 24. That age group decreased by 39 persons.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TABLE</b>  <b>Age Characteristics</b>  <b>Cumberland County</b>  <b>1990 – 2000</b></p>					
<i><u>Age</u></i>	<u>1990 Total</u>	<u>% of Population</u>	<u>2000 Total</u>	<u>% of Population</u>	<u>Change from 1990 to 2000</u>
0-4	550	7%	564	6.3%	+ 14 (2.5%)
5-17	1,500	19.2%	1,667	18.5%	+ 167 (11.1%)
18-24	699	8.9%	660	7.3%	- 39 (5.6%)
25-44	2,190	28.0%	2,521	28.0%	+ 331 (15.1%)
45-54	932	11.9%	1,279	14.2%	+ 347 (37.2%)
55-59	380	4.9%	527	5.8%	+ 147 (38.7%)
60-64	361	4.6%	460	5.1%	+ 99 (27.4%)
65-74	680	8.7%	779	8.6%	+ 99 (14.6%)
75-84	413	5.3%	419	4.6%	+ 6 (1.5%)
85+	120	1.5%	141	1.6%	+ 21 (17.5%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,825</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9,017</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>+ 1,192</b>
Under 18 years	2,000	25.6%	2,231	24.7%	+ 231 (11.6%)
65 years and over	1,213	15.5%	1,339	14.8%	+ 126 (10.4%)
<b>Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population</b>					

**TABLE**  
**Population Gender Characteristics**  
**Cumberland County**

<u><b>Year</b></u>	<u><b>Total</b></u>	<u><b>Male</b></u>	<u><b>% of Population</b></u>	<u><b>Female</b></u>	<u><b>% of Population</b></u>
1950	7,252	3,734	51.5%	3,518	48.5%
1960	6,360	3,188	50.1%	3,172	49.9%
1970	6,179	2,987	48.3%	3,192	51.7%
1980	7,881	3,828	48.6%	4,053	51.4%
1990	7,825	3,788	48.4%	4,037	51.6%
2000	9,017	4,295	47.6%	4,722	52.4%

**Source: 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population**

### **Racial Characteristics**

As noted in Table \_\_\_\_, racial characteristics for the U.S. Census years of 1980, 1990 and 2000 are presented for Cumberland County. The classification of “other” includes American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, Asian or Pacific Islander, and other races not included in the specific categories. (See Note within Table)



**TABLE  
Racial Characteristics  
Cumberland County**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>% of Population</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>% of Population</u>	<u>Other*</u>	<u>% of Population</u>
1980	7,881	4,475	56.8%	3,393	43.1%	13	0.1%
1990	7,825	4,765	60.9%	3,027	38.7%	33	0.4%
2000	9,017	5,444	60.4%	3,376	37.4%	197	2.2%

**Source: 1980, 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population**

**NOTE: In 1980 and 1990 the classification of “other” includes American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, Asian, Pacific Islander and other races not included in the specific categories. In 2000, the classification of “other” includes Indians, Alaska Native, Asian, Pacific Islander groups, other races not included in the specific categories listed, and those persons claiming 2 or more races. Therefore comparisons are unrealistic due to the inclusion of persons claiming 2 or more races in 2000.**

### **Population Estimates**

For the purpose of Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan, population estimates developed by the University of Virginia Weldon Copper Center are being viewed (see Table \_\_).

**TABLE  
Population Estimates  
Cumberland County, Region and State**

<b>Locality</b>	<b>2000 Population</b>	<b>2001 Population Estimate</b>	<b>2002 Population Estimate</b>	<b>2003 Population Estimate</b>	<b>2000- 2003 # Change</b>	<b>2000- 2003 % Change</b>
<b>Cumberland County</b>	9,017	8,962	9,032	9,189	172	1.9%
<b>Piedmont PDC</b>	97,103	97,500	98,300	99,000	1,897	2.0%
<b>State</b>	7,078,515	7,196,800	7,287,800	7,386,300	307,785	4.3%

**Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004.**

Population estimates look to the present or the recent past. They are usually more accurate than population projections because they can make use of current indicators – data series like births or licensed drivers that are direct measurements, usually derived

from government agency records. The range of statistical methods that can be used to do estimates is consequently greater than the methods available to product projections.

In the information provided, a cohort-component population estimation method is used. This method essentially follows each birth cohort according to its exposure to mortality, fertility and migration. Starting with a base population, deaths are subtracted from the population and births are added to the population. Estimates of net international migration and net internal migration are added to or subtracted from the population.

### **Population Projections**

Population projections look to the future. They aim to produce a quantity that represents the size of a population one, two, five or ten years from now. As a result, projection quantities like births, deaths and net migration are an integral part of doing a projection.

Also, most population projections are based on past trends combined with knowledge of prospective activities that may modify those trends. Projections based on past trends tend to be less accurate for areas with smaller numbers of people than for those with larger numbers. Unexpected events can drastically alter a small area's population, while only significantly affecting a larger area's population. For example, if a manufacturing firm locating in Cumberland County created 100 new jobs, it would have a greater impact on the County's rate of population growth than on a larger community (such as the City of Richmond). Such an event, if unanticipated, could affect the accuracy of the County's projections. Another consideration is that the further into future projections are made, the greater the chance of error. Therefore, periodic reviews of the projections are needed to adjust for changing conditions. The projection of population is essential for determining the land needs for future residential, commercial, industrial and public uses. Also, population projections can provide an indication of needs for community services, such as schools, parks and police protection to serve the future population.

Population projections in **Table** were prepared by the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC).

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**TABLE**  
**Population Projections**  
**Cumberland County**

<u><i>Age</i></u>	<u><b>1990(*)</b></u> <u><b>Population</b></u>	<u><b>2000 (*)</b></u> <u><b>Population</b></u>	<u><b>2010</b></u> <u><b>Projection</b></u>	<u><b>2020</b></u> <u><b>Projection</b></u>	<u><b>2030</b></u> <u><b>Projection</b></u>
Under 5	550	564	581	638	725
5-9	534	654	605	662	725
10-14	585	664	688	686	725
15-19	595	549	664	650	690
20-24	485	460	569	626	630
25-29	549	516	498	638	618
30-34	588	610	569	626	702
35-39	514	723	688	626	773
40-44	539	672	736	698	749
45-49	487	627	771	734	666
50-54	445	652	676	758	714
55-59	380	527	641	782	749
60-64	361	460	688	698	749
65-69	397	414	510	614	737
70-74	283	365	415	602	607
75-79	246	258	316	415	538
80-84	167	161	238	263	369
85+	120	141	244	288	333
<b>TOTAL</b>	7,825	9,017	10,100	11,000	11,800

**Note: Subparts may not add to total due to rounding.**  
**Source: Virginia Employment Commission, 2003**


### **C. Education**

As with other localities within the State of Virginia, education continues to be a concern for Cumberland County. Varying degrees of illiteracy exists among many persons in the County's work force. Due to changing technology within the manufacturing and industrial businesses, many of the County's residents are not knowledgeable or trained to meet the needs of employers for future employment nor provide the County with a potential labor force for future economic development.

According to the 1990 Census, only 57.4% of Cumberland County's population 25 years of age and over was high school graduates. In 2000, the County showed an improvement. According to the 2000 Census, 63.8 % of Cumberland County's population 25 years of age and over was high school graduates. A more detailed breakdown of the educational attainment of the population 25 years and over for Cumberland County can be seen in the Table  :

<b>TABLE</b> <b>Educational Attainment</b> <b>Population 25 Years and Over</b> <b>Cumberland County</b> <b>1990 – 2000</b>					
	<b><u>1990</u></b>	<b><u>% of Population</u></b>	<b><u>2000</u></b>	<b><u>% of Population</u></b>	<b><u>Change from 1990 to 2000</u></b>
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	1,094	21.6%	883	14.3%	- 211 (19.3%)
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma	1,077	21.0%	1,354	21.9%	+ 277 (25.7%)
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	1,572	30.6%	2,079	33.6%	+ 507 (32.3%)
Some College, No Degree	665	12.9%	969	15.7%	+ 304 (45.7%)
Associate Degree	146	2.8%	166	2.7%	+ 20 (13.7%)
Bachelor's Degree	371	7.2%	540	8.7%	+ 169 (45.6%)
Graduate or Professional Degree	201	3.9%	192	3.1%	- 9 (4.5%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,126</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,183</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>+ 1,057</b>
<b>Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population</b>					

In 1995, the State of Virginia adopted the "Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs) for the Virginia Public School System. These guidelines outline the basic knowledge and skills that all Virginia school children should be taught as they progress from kindergarten through the twelfth grade, in the essential academic subjects of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies (history, geography and government). These standards represent a

response to the demands of parents throughout Virginia for higher standards and focused academic courses in our public schools, so that our school children will be challenged to reach higher and be prepared to compete successfully in the increasingly competitive international economy of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Prominent business leaders have recognized these standards. These leaders consider the quality of public education as an important factor as they evaluate locations in which to invest and create jobs. Cumberland County's Accreditation Status for 2003-2004 is shown in Table .

<b>TABLE</b> <b>Cumberland County Public Schools</b> <b>2003-2004 Accreditation Status</b>						
<b><u>School</u></b>	<b><u>Grades</u></b>	<b><u>English</u></b>	<b><u>Math</u></b>	<b><u>History</u></b>	<b><u>Science</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<b>Cumberland Elementary</b>	PreK-5 <sup>th</sup>	67	87	87	71	Provisionally Accredited/Needs Improvement
<b>Cumberland Middle</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	74	100	79	89	Fully Accredited
<b>Cumberland High</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	85	79	72	66	Provisionally Accredited/Needs Improvement
<b>Source: Virginia Department of Education, 2004</b>						

Cumberland County's school accreditation for 2003-2004 is based on the students achievement on SOL tests in English, mathematics, history/social science, and science administered during 2002-2003 or an average of achievement during the three most recent years. The results of these tests administered in each subject area are combined to produce overall passing percentages in English, mathematics, history/social science, and science. Examinations are given in grades 3,5,8 and high school.

Accreditation ratings also reflect adjustments made for schools that successfully remediate students who initially fail reading, writing, or mathematics tests. Adjustments also may be made for students with limited English proficiency and for students who have recently transferred into the Public School System. All of these factors are taken into account in calculating adjusted pass rates in each subject area.

The schools within the Cumberland School System have received one of the following ratings:

**Fully Accredited** – a school is fully accredited if students achieve pass rates of or above in all four content areas.

Provisionally Accredited/Meets State Standards – a school receives this rating if a school is not fully accredited but students exceed all of the following benchmarks:

<b>Content Area</b>	<b>Adjusted Pass Rate</b>
English	70%
Mathematics	70%
History/Social Science	55%
Science	70%

*Schools that meet or exceed the above benchmark adjusted pass rates are counted as meeting the State of Virginia's achievement objectives for the year.*

Provisionally Accredited/Needs Improvement – a school receives this rating if pass rates in one or more subject areas are below the benchmarks listed unless the school is Accredited with Warning.

Accredited with Warning – A school receives this rating if adjusted pass rates are 20 or more points below the benchmarks listed above in one or more subject areas.

Another set of statistics that is important for the County of Cumberland is its total graduate rate and continuing education rate. It is difficult to attract higher-paying industries and businesses within the County if the graduate rate and continuing education rate for the area are not within that of the State's. All business enterprises need labor of suitable quantity, quality and type. A higher skilled and trained labor force attracts higher paying jobs to an area. As shown in Table     , Cumberland County has made somewhat of an improvement in the total graduate rate and a decrease in the dropout rate within the period of 1999-2003.

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**CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – 2005-2010**

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<b>TABLE</b> <b>Cumberland County</b> <b>Education Data</b> <b>1999-2000</b>			
<b>PLACE</b>	<b>DROPOUT RATE</b>	<b>TOTAL GRADUATES RATE (*)</b>	<b>CONTINUING EDUCATION RATE (*)</b>
<b>Cumberland</b>	5.01	57.3%	80.0%
<b>District</b>	3.79	67.0%	76.1%
<b>State</b>	2.52	76.0%	80.3%
<b>Cumberland County</b> <b>Education Data</b> <b>2001-2002</b>			
<b>PLACE</b>	<b>DROPOUT RATE</b>	<b>TOTAL GRADUATES RATE (*)</b>	<b>CONTINUING EDUCATION RATE (*)</b>
<b>Cumberland</b>	0.86	62.7%	43.0%
<b>District</b>	1.64	67.2%	70.1%
<b>State</b>	2.17	79.1%	75.8%
<p><b>*NOTE: Based on percent of ninth grade membership four years earlier.</b></p> <p><b>Source: Virginia Department of Education, <u>1999-00 and 2001-02 Annual School Report For Virginia</u>, Richmond, 2001 and 2003.</b></p>			

#### **D. Income**

##### **Per Capita Income**

The per capita income of local residents is an indicator of the standard living of a locality's citizens and the strength of its economy. The per capita income is the average annual income of each person residing in the locality. Income includes such sources as wages, dividends, pensions, social security benefits and public assistance. A measure of Cumberland County can be seen in Tables   .

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**CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – 2005-2010**

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**TABLE**  
**Per Capita Income**  
**Cumberland County, Region and State**

<u>Place</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>% Change 1980-2000</u>
<b>Cumberland</b>	\$ 4,630	\$ 10,295	\$ 17,884	286%
<b>PPDC</b>	\$ 4,937	\$ 9,757	\$ 15,337	211%
<b>State</b>	\$ 7,563	\$ 15,713	\$ 23,975	217%

**Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 1980, 1990, 2000.**

**TABLE**  
**Median Family Income**  
**Cumberland County, Region and State**

<u>Place</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>% Change 1980-2000</u>
<b>Cumberland</b>	\$ 12,720	\$ 26,566	\$ 37,965	198%
<b>PPDC</b>	\$ 14,200	\$ 26,264	\$ 38,550	171%
<b>State</b>	\$ 20,018	\$ 38,213	\$ 54,169	171%

**Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 1980, 1990, 2000.**

**TABLE**  
**Median Household Income**  
**Cumberland County, Region and State**

<u>Place</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>% Change 1980-2000</u>
<b>Cumberland</b>	\$ 11,398	\$ 22,115	\$ 31,816	179%
<b>PPDC</b>	\$ 12,219	\$ 22,071	\$ 31,564	158%
<b>State</b>	\$ 17,475	\$ 33,328	\$ 46,677	167%

**Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 1980, 1990, 2000.**



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TABLE</b>  <b>Percentage of Persons Below Poverty Level</b>  <b>Cumberland County, Region and State</b></p>			
<b><u>Place</u></b>	<b><u>1980</u></b>	<b><u>1990</u></b>	<b><u>2000</u></b>
<b>Cumberland</b>	24.7%	15.8%	15.1%
<b>PPDC</b>	20.2%	17.7%	17.2%
<b>State</b>	11.8%	10.2%	9.6%
<b>Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 1980, 1990, 2000.</b>			

#### **E. Commutation Patterns**

The average commute to work for residents in Cumberland County is just under 37 minute. Residents in the southeast corner of the county have an average commute of less than 22 minutes. Aside from those who work in the county, Cumberland residents commute to Charlotte, Prince Edward, Nottoway, Dinwiddie, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Halifax, Chesterfield, Albemarle, and Appomattox Counties, among other places.

*Insert Map*

#### **F. Employment/Unemployment**

As shown in Tables       , retail employment was the top industrial and business employment sector for Cumberland County during the 1990 U.S. Census. This industry was a key component for the County's economic base, accounting for 18.7% of the employment for residents in the County. Manufacturing was second on the list, accounting for 12.5% of the total employment for county residents.

The U.S. Bureau of Census defines retail trade as a business engaged in selling merchandise to the general public for personal or household consumption. Retail trade establishments are usually fixed places of business; they are engaged in activities to attract the general public to buy; they buy and sell merchandise and they are considered to be in retail trade.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the top industrial and business employment sector for Cumberland County was educational, health and social services employment.

The 2000 U.S. Census occupation distribution for Cumberland County is shown in Table       . The top-ranking category for the County includes Sales and Office occupations.

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**CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – 2005-2010**

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<b>TABLE</b> <b>Business and Industrial Employment of Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over</b> <b>Cumberland County Residents</b> <b>1990 – 2000</b>					
	<b><u>1990</u></b>	<b><u>% of Population</u></b>		<b><u>2000</u></b>	<b><u>% of Population</u></b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	324	8.9%	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting & Mining	242	6.0%
Mining	7	0.1%			
Construction	361	9.9%	Construction	454	11.2%
Manufacturing, nondurable & durable	455	12.5%	Manufacturing	402	9.9%
Transportation	125	3.4%	Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	231	5.7%
Communications & Other Public Utilities	77	2.1%	Information	63	1.6%
Wholesale Trade	110	3.0%	Wholesale Trade	81	2.0%
Retail Trade	679	18.7%	Retail Trade	474	11.7%
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	105	2.9%	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, & Rental/Leasing	213	5.3%
Business and Repair Services	107	2.9%	Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation & Food Services	249	6.2%
Personal Services	143	3.9%			
Entertainment & Recreation	28	0.8%			
Health Services	203	5.6%	Educational, Health & Social Services	806	19.9%
Educational Services	436	12.0%			
Other Professional and Related Services	178	4.9%	Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative & Waste Management Services	248	6.1%
Public Administration	299	8.2%	Public Administration	343	8.5%
			Other Services	238	5.9%
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>3,637</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>4,044</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Source: 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Population</b>					

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TABLE</b>  <b>Occupations of Employed Civilian Population 16 Years of Age and Older</b>  <b>Cumberland County</b>  <b>2000</b></p>	
<u><b>Occupation</b></u>	<u><b>Number</b></u>
Management, Professional & Related Occupations	884
Service Occupations	676
Sales & Office Occupations	1,001
Farming, Fishing & Forestry Occupations	138
Construction, Extraction & Maintenance Occupations	664
Production, Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	681
<b>Total Employment</b>	<b>4,044</b>
<b>Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, 2000.</b>	

Employment in several occupations is expected to decline because of technological advances and other economic factors. Other occupations will decline because they are concentrated in declining industries. Although turnover may create a limited number of openings, job seekers entering a declining occupation may face increased chances of future job losses.

According to the Virginia Employment Commission's Economic Information Services Division, the top lost occupations in the future are: Sewing, Textile, Farming, Computer Operators and Product Inspectors. As far as the fastest growing occupations, the Virginia Employment Commission's Economic Information Services Division has stated that the following will be the fastest growing occupations within the State of Virginia from 2000 to 2010:

- Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food
- Customer Service Representatives
- Registered Nurses
- Retail Salespersons
- Computer Support Specialists
- Cashiers
- General Office Clerks
- Security Guards
- Computer Software Engineers, Applications
- Waiters and Waitresses

### **Major Employers**

Cumberland County's top 12 employers as of the First Quarter of 2004 are shown in Table       .

Table Cumberland County Top 12 Employers Year: 2004, Quarter: 1			
Rank	Employer	Type	Employment
1	Cumberland County School Board	Local Government	250-499
2	County of Cumberland	Local Government	50-99
3	Crossroads Services Board, Southside Ent.	Private	20-49
4	Johnny R. Asal Lumber Company	Private	20-49
5	Covance Research Products	Private	20-49
6	Central Piedmont Action Committee	Private	20-49
7	Gemini of Minnesota, Inc.	Private	20-49
8	Human Resources, Inc.	Private	20-49
9	Stop In Food Stores, Inc.	Private	20-49
10	Cumberland Building Supply, Inc.	Private	20-49
11	Cumberland County Dept. of Social Services	Local Government	20-49
12	Appomattox River Company	Private	20-49
Source: Virginia Employment Commission			

### **Unemployment**

Cumberland County's average unemployment rate for 2003 has increased from the 2002 rate (see Table       ). When comparing the County's unemployment rate to that of the Piedmont Planning District's and the State of Virginia's 2003 unemployment rate, Cumberland County's is slightly lower.

The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) was the source for the unemployment statistics in this Comprehensive Plan. VEC utilizes the following definitions to determine unemployment rates. The labor force, total persons available for work, is defined as including all persons 16 years of age and older who are actively seeking work or working. Employment includes all persons 16 years of age or older who are working. Unemployment includes all persons 16 years of age and older who have been actively seeking work for 4 weeks. The unemployment figures may be somewhat misleading. Not all unemployed persons are counted by the VEC. Once a person is no longer eligible to receive unemployment due to the expiration of their benefit period, he or she will not be counted as unemployed or part of the labor force. This may cause the unemployment

figures to be lower than what they truly are. These persons are considered to be “discouraged workers” or the “underemployed.”

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TABLE</b>  <b>Annual Average Unemployment Rates</b>  <b>Cumberland County, Region and State</b></p>							
<b><u>Place</u></b>	<b><u>1997</u></b>	<b><u>1998</u></b>	<b><u>1999</u></b>	<b><u>2000</u></b>	<b><u>2001</u></b>	<b><u>2002</u></b>	<b><u>2003</u></b>
<b>Cumberland</b>	4.9%	2.8%	2.0%	1.7%	2.2%	2.9%	3.5%
<b>PPDC</b>	7.0%	4.2%	3.3%	2.9%	3.7%	4.7%	4.9%
<b>State</b>	4.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.2%	3.5%	4.1%	4.1%
<b>Source: Virginia Employment Commission, 1997-2003</b>							

Below is an historical account of those industrial and manufacturing closings, openings and expansions that have occurred within Cumberland County over the last 10 years:

**Greenfront Warehouse/Distribution Center** - In May 1997, it was announced that Green Front Furniture from Farmville purchased the 85,000 square foot (7,905 square meter) shell building in the Riverside Industrial Park located in Cumberland County. The shell building is used as a warehouse/distribution center. The present warehouse used by Green Front Furniture was converted into retail space for the store. It is estimated that the conversion entailed an investment of approximately \$3 million by Green Front Furniture. Presently, there are 5 persons employed at the warehouse/distribution center within the Riverside Industrial Park.

**Gemini, Inc.** - In January 1998, Gemini, Inc. a Minnesota-based sign components manufacturer built a 20,000 square foot manufacturing facility in the Riverside Industrial Park in Cumberland County. The Riverside Industrial Park is a joint venture between the County of Cumberland and the Town of Farmville in neighboring Prince Edward County. The jobs created with the operation are craft-type, not assembly line. Gemini, Inc. manufactures plastic and metal letters for the sign industry. The building was completed in late 1998. The wood-molding department began operations for plastic lettering in December 1998. The cut out-metal part department began in January 1999, with the plant becoming fully operational in February 1999. Presently, a total of 30 persons are working at the Farmville plant.

## **G. Land Use and Development Patterns**


### ***Existing Land Use***

An inventory of existing land use is important because it establishes the existing land use pattern, which is the framework that must accommodate all future growth development. Ideally, new land uses can be built within the existing land use pattern with minimum

conflict. A periodic update of land use changes should be made to keep pace with future trends as they occur within the County.

To be useful and understandable, the land use information must be organized into categories that reflect the variety of activities that occur in the County. For the purpose of this study, land use was divided into developed land and land used for agriculture and forestry. Developed land included structures or nearby properties that are used in connection with structures.

### ***Developed Land***

As shown on Map , the primary use of the land is agricultural. For the most part, residential development is located on secondary roads throughout the County. This location of development is favored as development on the County's primary roads, mainly U.S. 60, contributes to dangerous traffic situations.

The major commercial uses consist of a variety of business activities, such as service stations, restaurants, grocery stores, repair shops and others. These businesses are found in and around the primary corridor, U.S. 60 and on Route 45 in Cartersville.

Industrial use located in the County includes the Riverside Industrial Park, located on 38 acres on Route 600 northwest of Farmville. There are currently two (2) industries located within the park. The location of the park allows these industries to take advantage of the close proximity of community facilities and services.

### ***Future Land Use***

Perhaps the most important and widely used element of the Comprehensive Plan is the future land use plan. While there are many aspects of the Comprehensive Plan that are of interest to residents, investors and developers, it is the future land use plan, viewed in contrast with existing land use patterns that best summarize the County's vision for the future. Within the future land use plan, all other plan elements can be viewed in a general physical context, including those relating to community facilities, public utilities, transportation facilities, economic development, agriculture, forestry and housing. The future land use plan does not specify in detailed terms exactly where individual features occur. The future land use plan is general in nature and describes in a physical configuration the more detailed goals, objectives and policies articulated in the plan.

The future land use plan for Cumberland County is shown as Map \_\_\_\_\_. This plan divides the County into four (4) categories of land use with each category having certain general characteristics. Also, there are a number of special features that may fall within any one of the four (4) general categories of land use and are included in the future land use plan. The following sections describe the four (4) general categories of land use and special features in more detail.

### ***Low Density Areas***

These areas are foreseen as slow growth, low-density areas. These areas are expected to remain in primarily agricultural forestall and rural residential land uses. Residential densities are expected to continue to be generally very low. These areas may also contain a variety of agri-industry operations, small convenience retail and service businesses, and small manufacturing businesses. These areas are the best areas for natural, agricultural and forestall preservation opportunities. These areas are not generally appropriate for larger manufacturing business. These areas will continue to experience slow and random residential development.

### ***Primary Development Corridor***

These corridors follow the major traffic arteries through the County. They are often within the potential service areas for public utilities, making them optimum areas for larger and more complex development. Where utilities are available or can be reasonably extended, the primary development corridors are the most favored potential locations for significant business, industrial and institutional development. The primary development corridors can also be appropriate areas of higher density residential development, including mobile home parks, mobile home subdivisions, garden apartments and townhouses. With higher density housing, careful zoning should be applied to avoid incompatible adjacent land uses.

### ***Secondary Development Corridor***

These areas are similar to the primary development corridors and also extended through areas with public utility service or service potential. These corridors have generally good access to public services, shopping and economic opportunities available within the County and therefore are good areas for a wide variety of moderately complex medium density developments. Where utilities are present or can be reasonably extended, these areas have development potential nearby comparable to the potential in primary development corridors. However, high traffic generating land uses are less appropriate. Areas beyond the reach of public utilities still have good development potential but are limited to smaller developments. Secondary development corridors are good areas for a wide range of land uses including housing subdivisions, and small retail and service business. These corridors are not as appropriate for large industrial developments.

### ***Utility Service Area***

These areas are currently served by public water and/or sewer service or are within a reasonable range for utility extensions from existing systems within the next twenty years. These areas include the existing water and/or sewer service for the County. Primary highways also serve these areas. Given the numerous advantages of transportation and immediate access to the full range of public and private services that are concentrated in and near the County, these utility services areas are the optimum areas for economic and residential growth.

### *Special Features*

All communities have special features that make the community unique or special. The magnitude, quality and characteristics of special features vary considerably from community to community and nearly always contribute to the economic and social viability of the community. Also, such special features often have an important bearing on the future economic and social growth potential of the community.

Cumberland County's special features include:

1. Farmville Regional Airport
2. Bear Creek Lake State Park
3. Cumberland State Forest
4. Riverside Industrial Park
5. Heartland Golf Club
6. Cartersville Historic District
7. Hamilton Community
8. Hillcrest Community
9. Old Tamworth Post Office
10. Cumberland County Courthouse/County Government Complex
11. Clifton Home
12. Amphill Property
13. Morven Home
14. Needham Home
15. Flannagan's (Trice's) Mill
16. Muddy Creek's (Moon's) Mill
17. Trenton/Sports Lake Mill
18. Ca Ira Warehouse/Store
19. Confederate Cemetery (in the Town of Farmville)
20. Oak Hill Cemetery (One tombstone, Charles Irving Thornton, has an epitaph written by Charles Dickens.)
21. Jesse Thomas Homestead Site
22. Lithia Springs
23. Old Jordan Home site, with Concrete Mottoes
24. Pine Grove Community Center
25. Rosenwald Schools
26. Squair M. Shuart Home/Burial Place
27. Various Stops on the Route of Lee's Retreat

See Map  for identification of special features in Cumberland County.

**In addition to development types discussed earlier in this section, another type of development Cumberland County is considering for the future is a planned unit development (PUD). A PUD is defined in the Code of Virginia as “a form of development characterized by unified site design for a variety of housing types and densities, clustering of buildings, common open space, and a mix of building types**



**and land uses in which project planning and density calculation are performed for the entire development rather than on an individual lot basis.” The review process for a PUD is typically more flexible than for traditional zoning in that, with a PUD, density can be calculated over the entire development as opposed to being calculated by individual lot.**

Zoning district boundaries need not exactly correspond to patterns of general categories of land use shown on the future land use plan. In addition, individual zoning district requirements do not have to exactly reflect the description of the land use categories contained herein. However, decisions relating to creation or amendment of zoning districts should take into consideration the future land use plan and should be compatible with or supportive of the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan and the land use descriptions contained in this element.

The future land use plan is general in nature and can be used as a guide for establishing or amending zoning district designations.

## **H. Housing Resources**

Adequate, safe and affordable housing is a basic need for a community. Sufficient housing in good condition is important because it tends to provide more desirable living conditions and has a higher value.

In addition, standard housing can be a factor in attracting new industry to a community. When industry relocates, it often brings new workers into a community. If sufficient and appealing housing exists, it facilitates the relocation of new personnel.

This section will examine housing in Cumberland County by type, quality, vacancy rate and household characteristics, such as household size and race. Public policies (local, state and federal) that affect the cost and location of housing will also be reviewed. While the provision of housing units is largely the responsibility of the private sector, which includes builders, developers, realtors, bankers and others, there has always been a close interdependence between the public and private sector in meeting the housing needs of a community. An analysis of the above factors should provide a broad base for future decisions. Data from this section was obtained from the 2000 U.S. Census of Population.

### ***Housing Units***

The U.S. Census Bureau defines a housing unit as a house, and apartment, a group of living rooms or a single occupied, or intended for occupancy, as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants do not live and eat with other persons in the structure and which have (1) direct access from outside of the building or through a common hall or (2) complete kitchen facilities for the exclusive use of the occupants. Group quarters such as boarding houses, jails, dormitories and hospitals are not counted as living units.

Table      shows that housing units in Cumberland County increased from 3,170 units in 1990 to 4,085 units in 2000. Homeownership is very strong in the County, with an average of 66% of the homes owner occupied. Owner occupied homes have basically remained stable during the past decades, decreasing by 4% between 1990 and 2000. However, the overall vacancy rate has increased from 11.3% in 1990 to 13.6% in 2000.

<b>TABLE</b> <b>Housing Unit Characteristics</b> <b>Cumberland County</b>				
	<u><b>1980</b></u>	<u><b>1990</b></u>	<u><b>2000</b></u>	<u><b>Change from 1990 to 2000</b></u>
Total Housing Units	3,060	3,170	4,085	+ 915 (28.9%)
Population in Group Quarters	----	46	36	- 10 (21.7%)
Occupied Housing Units	2,560	2,813	3,528	+ 715 (25.4%)
Owner Occupied	2,066	2,231	2,722	+ 491 (22.0%)
Renter Occupied	494	582	806	+ 224 (38.5%)
Vacant		357	557	+ 200 (56.0%)
For seasonal, recreational or occasional use	-----	131	141	+ 10 (7.6%)
Homeowner Vacancy Rate	1.6%	1.2%	1.6%	+ 0.4%
Rental Vacancy Rate	5.4%	6.9%	5.1%	- 1.8%
<b>Source: 1980, 1990 and 2000 U.S. Census of Housing</b>				

### ***Structural Types***

The predominant housing type in the County, and through out Southside Virginia, is single-family homes. However, with the rapidly rising housing costs and the trend towards a smaller household size, it is predicted that there will be an increased demand for multi-family units and manufactured homes.

Manufactured homes reflect an effort to provide housing that is more affordable than the average single-family dwelling. Manufactured homes do represent a potential solution for at least part of the affordable housing demand. However, as a housing strategy they present a variety of fiscal and esthetic trade-offs, including the potential long term value depreciation of the structures and the potential cumulative visual impact that scattered, unplanned units can have on the County's scenic, rural landscape.

A limited stock of subsidized housing is available nearby, in the Town of Farmville. Milnwood Village Apartments provides one-bedroom units for elderly and disabled individuals that qualify for Section 515-financed housing (That program is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service). Other communities that provide Section 515 housing include Country Estates and The Meadows. Parkview Gardens offers one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments for residents that qualify for Section 8 housing under U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines. Timberlake Village (which provides Section 8-11 housing for mentally disabled persons), Candlewood Apartments and Farm Ridge Apartments also offer subsidized housing for local residents.

### ***Housing Quality***

Indicators of housing conditions selected for this analysis include overcrowding, low value, age and units lacking adequate water and sewer facilities. The existence of one or more of these conditions does not mean that a home is unsuitable for occupancy, but may indicate serious inadequacies such as structural obsolescence, deterioration, and the potential for health and safety problems. Table [REDACTED] contains statistics on various indicators of housing quality listed in the U.S. Census in 1990 and 2000.

<b>TABLE</b>		
<b>Selected Measures of Deficient Housing Conditions</b>		
<b>Cumberland County</b>		
	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>
Total Year Round Housing Units	3,170	4,085
Units Lacking Complete Plumbing	307	59
Units Lacking Complete Kitchen Facilities	169	41
Occupied Housing Units	2,813	3,528
Occupied		
Below \$50,000	548	152
Value Between \$50,000 - \$99,000	485	859
Average Contract Rent	\$222	\$358
<b>Source: 1980 and 1990 U.S. Census of Housing</b>		

### ***Cumberland County Governmental Policies***

Residential development in the County is regulated by its Zoning Ordinance, adopted in 1969.

The County has also adopted the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, which sets standards for the construction, alteration, adoption, repair, removal, use, location,

occupancy and maintenance of all buildings. This code is administered by the County's building inspector.

Residential real estate taxes, a major source of local revenues, are set at \$0.76 per \$100.

### ***State of Virginia Policies***

In 1970, the General Assembly established the Virginia Housing Study Commission (VHSC). The Commission conducts continuing study of Virginia's housing situation. It holds three to six public hearings throughout the State each year to solicit citizen input into proposed legislation.

### ***Federally Assisted Housing For Low and Moderate Income Households***

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) offers funding to eligible units of local government to address critical community development needs, including housing, through the Virginia Community Development Block Grant (VCDBG). This program has been administered by DHCD since 1982. Community Development Block Grant funds are made available to DHCD by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Housing activities are eligible for VCDBG assistance to improve the living conditions of low- and moderate-income persons. Funding may be used to rehabilitate housing units or for the development of new housing units that will be occupied by low- and moderate-income persons.

## **I. Transportation**

### ***Introduction***

In analyzing transportation facilities there are several factors that should be considered for Cumberland County. The first is whether the transportation system is both safe and efficient. People expect to be able to transport themselves and their materials in the shortest period of time with a certain knowledge that they will arrive at their destination safely. A second concern is the relationship between the transportation system and the existing and proposed land use activities of the County. Certain land uses can be expected to require greater transportation facilities than others. Also, the location of transportation facilities can determine the use of land. Finally, it is important that the perceived transportation needs and desires of County residents be met.

### ***Roadways***

The transportation system of Cumberland County consists primarily of its roadways; however, the County does have air facilities. Presently, the major roadways in the County are:

- U.S. Route 60, a two-lane undivided high volume arterial passing through Cumberland County from west to east. Approximately 3.5 miles, west of Cumberland Court House, consist of a five-lane road with a center lane.
- Virginia Primary Route 45, a two-lane undivided roadway that runs through the County. This highway starts in the Town of Farmville and runs north, through Cumberland Court House and Cartersville, and into Goochland County.
- Virginia Primary Route 13, a two-lane undivided highway that starts just east of Cumberland Court House and runs east into Powhatan County.

In June 2003, the County was awarded \$40,000 in Rural Transportation Planning Grant funds for a study of the Route 60 Corridor through Cumberland Court House. The project is a planning and conceptual design study to address traffic, access management and safety issues for a three-mile stretch of U.S. Route 60 from Route 45 to Route 622. The study's final report, released in October 2004, recommended a two-lane "chicane" (a segment of roadway with a gradual "s" curve), gateway "splitter" landscaped medians, and bicycle lanes along U.S. 60 in the village.

### ***Maintenance***

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) maintains and provides maintenance funds for the Cumberland County's road system. The amount of funding is based upon whether a road is classified as primary or secondary facility. Primary roads are a statewide network connecting cities, towns and other points of interest. They include all roads with state and federal route numbers below 600 and numbered roads that serve as extensions to primary roads. All other public roads in the County are secondary roads.

There are nine (9) construction districts in the State. Cumberland County falls in the Lynchburg District. This District covers a total of ten (10) counties, which include: Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Nelson, Pittsylvania and Prince Edward.

### ***Highway Functional Classification Plan***

According to the Statewide Highway Plan for 2010, highway functional classification is a grouping of highways into systems according to the character of service that they are intended to provide. All roads are the Virginia Department of Transportation definitions for the rural road classifications:

Principal Arterial – These highways provide an integrated network of roads that connect principal metropolitan areas and serve virtually all urban areas demands such as statewide and interstate travel.

Minor Arterial – These highways link cities and large towns and provide an integrated network for intrastate and intercounty service. They supplement the principal arterial system so that geographic areas are within a reasonable distance of an arterial highway. They are intended as routes that have minimum interference to through movement.

Major Collector – These highways provide service to any county seat, large towns or other major traffic generators not served by the arterial system. They provide links to the higher classified routes and serve as important intracounty travel corridors.

Minor Collector – These highways collect traffic from local roads and bring all developed areas within a reasonable distance of a collector road. They provide service to small communities and link important local traffic generators with the rural areas.

Local – These roads provide access to adjacent land and serve travel of short distances as compared to the higher systems.

### ***Virginia Department Highways and Transportation Plans for Road Improvements***

The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, through the Commonwealth's Transportation Board, promulgates the Virginia Transportation Development Plan, formerly known as the Six Year Improvements Program. This plan is updated annually and is divided into two (2) sections for developing highway projects. In the first section, the Feasibility phase, various studies are required by federal and state laws and regulations. During this phase, the scope, schedule and budget of a project are at their most tentative and significant delays often occur. In the second section, the Capital Improvement Program phase, projects are refined and going forward to construction. The plan also includes information on all roadway systems, except secondary roads. Projects in Cumberland County under the 2005-2010 plan include improvements to Route 45 south of Cartersville and a replacement of the Route 45 Bridge at the Appomattox River, known as the Cumberland Bridge. This bridge, located in the Town of Farmville, separates Cumberland and Prince Edward Counties. The plan is currently being updated and will be available at VDOT's website ([www.virginiavdot.org](http://www.virginiavdot.org)).

### ***Public Transportation***

Residents of Cumberland County do not have access to public transportation, a common characteristic of the region as a whole. Services are extremely limited in the Piedmont Planning District, with vast areas and many communities not served by the limited transportation systems that do exist.

Central Virginia Transportation (CVT) used to have a deviated-fixed route transit system operating in certain localities of the Planning District. Cumberland, Buckingham and

Amelia Counties contained the origination points for CVT buses. In March 2003, CVT shut down its operations. Funding for the system was provided by State and Federal funds that were matched by local funds. The closure was due to the lack of the required matching funds. The match funds came through fares that were charged to the public and any contracts they may get, for instance, to transport STEPS. The only avenue to get the matching funds was to ask participating localities to appropriate additional funding, which the counties were not able to do because of budget constraints. Therefore, the bus system was terminated.

Public transportation within the County would assist workers with transportation to and from work places. The lack of services is a serious obstacle to many individuals seeking gainful employment who are unable to afford reliable personal transportation. The County may want to consider conducting a transportation survey among residents to further determine the services residents would utilize and find beneficial.

### ***Rail Service\****

Rail service has been a vital part of the region's economy in the past. However, the section that runs between Farmville and Burkeville (through Cumberland County) has been abandoned by its owner – the Norfolk Southern Corporation. Throughout 2004 and 2005, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation held a series of meetings to present ideas and gather input from the public on converting this section, and other abandoned railroad lines in Central and Southside Virginia, into recreational trails.

Although Norfolk Southern Corporation no longer offers passenger service, Amtrak passenger service is available in Richmond. However, a state-wide committee has been established to advance the creation of the TransDominion Express (TDX). The TDX is a proposed passenger rail service, crossing the Commonwealth of Virginia on existing tracks by using modern "European-style" rail cars for maximum safety and comfort. It is anticipated that by providing an efficient and needed alternative to automobile travel, the TDX would decrease traffic congestion on highways, reduce air pollution, increase safety, and stimulate tourism and commerce. The TDX would primarily operate on tracks owned by Norfolk Southern Corporation, with the exception of small sections owned by Amtrak and CSX. Some improvements would be made to existing tracks, such as installing spurs to allow freight and passenger traffic to share the same tracks, as well as other improvements to provide a smoother, faster ride for passengers. Compared to highway projects (in which the addition of two additional lanes to existing interstate highways can cost \$10 million), the TransDominion Express would be relatively inexpensive to introduce. Total capital costs to improve existing tracks and stations and to acquire equipment, should be less than \$100 million for the entire 500-mile rail system.

To date, more than 150 counties, cities, chambers of commerce, and planning divisions have passed resolutions supporting expanded passenger rail in the Commonwealth. Support of the more than 20 colleges and universities located along the route is in the interest of students, faculty members, and parents. The Rail Passenger Study predicts that within 12 years, operating costs of the train would be completely covered by ticket sales.

(The fare is estimated to be 20¢ per mile—or approximately \$70 to ride from Southwestern Virginia to Washington, D.C.). It is expected that 372,000 passengers will ride the trains annually, increasing to nearly 800,000 by 2020. (A similar rail system, The Amtrak Cascades line in the Pacific Northwest, met its ridership projections within just a few years of initiating service.) Not only does the TDX route offer complete rail service from Bristol all the way to Washington, D.C., or Richmond, it also offers the convenience of shorter travel to a number of points along the way. The closest staffed stations to Cumberland County would include Richmond, Lynchburg and Charlottesville, while the Town of Farmville and Appomattox County would offer stops at non-staffed stations.

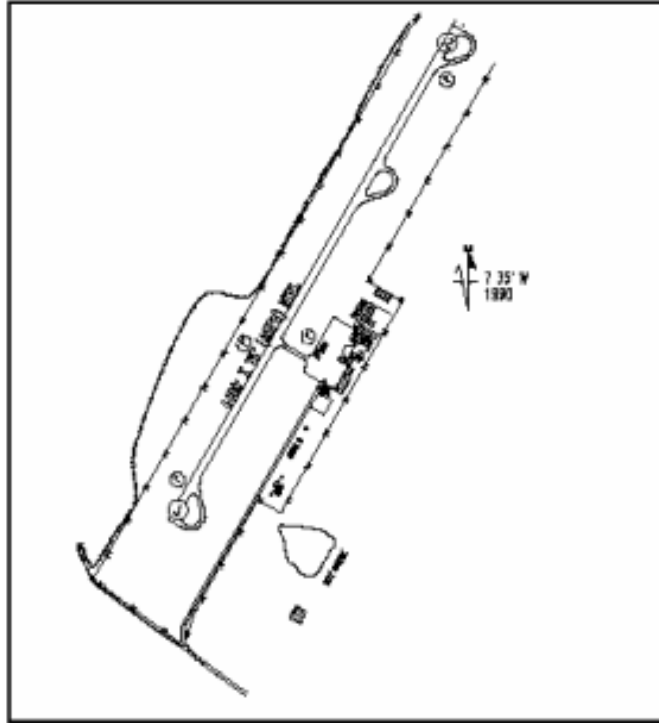
\*Information obtained from TransDominion Express website ([www.tdxinfo.org](http://www.tdxinfo.org)).

### ***Airports***

The Farmville Regional Airport is located in southern Cumberland County, 5 miles northwest of the Town of Farmville. The airport has planes to fly in for maintenance and work from as far as Baltimore and South Carolina. The airport has a runway length of 4,400 feet. The runway was expanded from its previous length of 3,200 feet in 1996. The County has been successful in obtaining funds from the Federal and State Aviation Association for upgrades of the airport's facilities. Upgrade activities included the runway extension, installation of a new lighting system, terminal building and fuel servicing area.

In 2002, the Town of Farmville submitted a proposed Six-Year Capital Improvements Plan to the Virginia Department of Aviation. The proposal consisted of ten (10) projects, including a T-Hangar expansion, beacon replacement and runway replacement, and is estimated to cost \$4,175,000. Federal funding, which has already been approved, will account for \$3,420,000. State revenues are projected to supply \$603,999, with local funding projected to total \$151,002. The plan was put on hold by the Virginia Department of Aviation as a result of state budget shortfalls during 2002-2003. No funds were allocated to projects because of the recent budget crisis in Virginia.





## **FARMVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT - FVX**

### ***Piedmont Regional Bicycle Plan***

In June 2000, the Piedmont Planning District Commission prepared the Piedmont Regional Bicycle Plan in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and Virginia Department of Transportation. The project was funded by the FY 2002 Rural Transportation Planning Grant under the Rural Transportation Program. In order for any locality or region to be eligible for VDOT funding for highway projects, it will need to adopt appropriate sections of the Bicycle Plan as part of its comprehensive plan. Thus, the Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan incorporates the Piedmont Regional Bicycle Plan as part of this plan.

### ***Transportation Enhancement Program***

The Transportation Enhancement Program, through the Virginia Department of Transportation, offers broad opportunities and federal dollars to undertake unique and creative action to integrate transportation into communities and the environment. There are twelve (12) eligible enhancement project activity types. These categories include:

1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Educational Activities
3. Acquisition of Scenic Easements and Scenic or Historic Sites
4. Scenic or Historic Highway Programs (including Tourist and Welcome Centers)

5. Landscaping and Other Scenic Beautification
6. Historic Preservation
7. Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities
8. Preservation of Abandoned Railway Corridors
9. Control and Removal of Outdoor Advertising
10. Archaeological Planning and Research
11. Mitigation of Water Pollution and Wildlife Protection
12. Establishment of Transportation Museums

Up to 80 percent of transportation enhancement project can be financed with Federal Surface Transportation Program funds. A minimum 20 percent must come from other public or private sources. Some types of federal funds from other Federal Agencies are allowable for the required match. All or part of the 20 percent local match may be an in-kind contribution of tangible property, such as donation of land or materials. In addition, to the limit allowable under federal law, professional services that are related to the project and are documental may qualify as an in-kind match, as does volunteer work.

## **J. Natural Resources**

### ***The Land Surface***

Cumberland County is located in the Piedmont province where rolling topography is typical. The topographic relief of the area ranges from 200 to 500 feet above sea level. In general, the land surface slopes gently toward the southeast. A large part of the planning area falls within developable limits as far as topography is concerned; however, some hilly areas and strips along streambeds may present land slopes greater than fifteen percent (15 feet for each 100 feet horizontal), which may exclude development.

### ***Climate***

The County experiences a generally moderate climate (See Table     ). The winters are fairly mild with an average high in January of 48°F and an average low of 25°F. Summers are typically warm with temperatures in July averaging a high of 89°F and a low of 65°F. The chart below indicates the temperature and weather trends Cumberland Court House. This information was obtained from the Weather Channel, 2001.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TABLE</b>  <b>Monthly Averages and Records</b>  <b>Cumberland Court House</b></p>												
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – 2005-2010

<b>Avg. High</b>	48°F	52°F	61°F	71°F	78°F	85°F	89°F	87°F	81°F	71°F	61°F	51°F
<b>Avg. Low</b>	25°F	28°F	35°F	43°F	52°F	61°F	65°F	64°F	57°F	44°F	36°F	29°F
<b>Mean</b>	37°F	40°F	48°F	57°F	65°F	73°F	77°F	76°F	69°F	58°F	48°F	40°F
<b>Avg. Precip.</b>	4.03 in	3.32 in	4.26 in	3.35 in	4.26 in	3.23 in	4.19 in	3.86 in	3.94 in	3.82 in	3.41 in	3.20 in
<b>Record High</b>	80°F (1952)	82°F (1948)	90°F (1945)	95°F (1985)	98°F (1941)	105°F (1952)	105°F (1954)	106°F (1932)	106°F (1932)	100°F (1941)	88°F (1950)	82°F (1998)
<b>Record Low</b>	-16°F (1940)	-9°F (1996)	0°F (1960)	16°F (1985)	25°F (1963)	35°F (1945)	45°F (1962)	41°F (1946)	30°F (1956)	12°F (1962)	9°F (1970)	-6°F (1942)
<b>Source: The Weather Channel, 2002.</b>												

Precipitation averages 3.74 inches a month, with a majority of rainfall distributed during spring and summer. Prevailing winds for the most of the year are from the south and southwest, while winter winds are from the north and northeast.

### ***Drainage***

Cumberland County is divided into two main watersheds by U.S. Route 60, which runs west from east through the County. Most of the area north of U.S. Route 60 drains into the James River watershed. The James River flows past Richmond and Williamsburg, and into the Chesapeake Bay. Most of the area south of the highway drains into the Appomattox River watershed. The Appomattox runs through Farmville and along the border between Cumberland, Buckingham, Prince Edward and Amelia Counties, and eventually flows into the James River south of Richmond.

### ***Mineral Resources***

Cumberland County is underlain primarily by igneous and metamorphic rock. Granite and related rocks occur in some parts of the County. Monazite, a phosphate of the rare earth, is found in saprolite derived from gneiss near Farmville.


In the past, Sandstone was quarried near Farmville for use as foundation stone, and conglomerate near Trents Mill was quarried and crushed for roadstone. Sand and gravel have been produced for highway construction and maintenance. Also in the past, prospecting was done for mica and feldspar southwest of Cumberland Court House and for mica southwest of Duncan's Corner. Sulfide minerals and gold have been prospected near Cartersville. In addition, there is an abandoned gold mine located in the northern part of the County.

Clay materials have been produced for the manufacture of brick near Hawk. Coal of Traissic age occurs in the southwestern part of the County, and a small amount has been mined near Farmville. The abandoned Piedmont Coal Company produced coal for local use from the early 1960s until the early 1980s in the southern part of the County.

### *Forests*

According to the Virginia Department of Forestry, Cumberland County had 132,615 acres of forestland in 2002, out of a total land area of 191,002 acres (\* Based on an interpretation of 2002 Virginia Base Mapping Program digital aerial photography). This represents 69.4% of the County's total land area that consists of forest. The majority of the County's forestland is privately owned. A smaller amount is commercially owned, and a small amount – less than 20,000 acres – is state-owned (Cumberland State Forest).

### *Soils*

Map  shows the general soil associations in Cumberland County. A soil association is a landscape that has a distinguishable proportional pattern of soils. It normally consists of one or more soils of large extent, and at least one soil of lesser extent, and is named for the most extensive soils. The soils in one association can occur in another, but in a different pattern.

The soil survey maps show specific soils on individual farms or tracts of land throughout the County. The soil associations are discussed in terms of their suitability for ponds, lagoons, and septic tank systems.

- Sustainability for lagoons: Poindexter soils may present a problem because of rock within 40 inches of the ground surface. Chewcala is generally not suitable because it is subject to flooding. The other soils in the associations have moderate limitations because of seepage or wetness, or both. On-site investigations are necessary to determine suitability of the soil for a lagoon.
- Suitability for ponds: Generally, Appling, Dogue, Mayodan, Enon, Iredell and Creedmoor soils are considered good for pond sites. Caution should be observed during construction not to dig down into the underlying rotten rock, which is usually at depths of 3 ½ to 7 feet or more. Cecil, Cullen, Georgeville, Nason and Poindexter do not hold water well in many places, and a year-round flow from springs is best to insure a full pond. Chewcala is generally suited for ponds, but the hazard of flooding is a menace to the structure. Dogue soils usually are capable of holding water, provided the site is not dug down to a sand or gravel layer. On-site investigations are necessary to determine site suitability.
- Suitability for septic systems: Appling, Nason, Cullen, Georgeville, Mayodan and Cecil soils are rated as having moderate limitations for septic fields on all slopes. On-site inspections are necessary, as a septic system placed below rotten rock that is soft and loose could pollute ground water. Poindexter and Enon soils have severe limitations because of the shallowness to rock. Iredeed, Creedmoor, Chewcala and Dogue soils also have severe limitations, because of a tight subsoil or high water table.

- Suitability for buildings: Appling and Cecil soils would have slight limitations on slopes of 7 percent or less, moderate limitations on slopes ranging from 7 to 12 percent, and severe limitations on slopes of more than 12 percent severe limitations because of slope. These are deep well-drained soils, and landscaping can be accomplished fairly easily. Enon soils have plastic clay lower subsoils that may cause some swelling and shrinking upon wetting and drying. Borings need to be made to determine if the clay subsoil is plastic enough to take special precautions in building foundations. Because of this, it has severe limitations on slopes up to 7 percent, moderate limitations on slopes from 7 to 12 percent, and severe limitations on slopes over 12 percent. Special precautions to seal basements would apply to this soil.

## **K. Community Facilities and Services**

### ***Introduction***

Community facilities and services are made possible by individuals, families, businesses and industries working together to serve County residents through local government. The provision of such facilities and services is usually determined by the tax income that can be obtained from local population and businesses.

The following inventory analysis summarizes those public resources for which the government of Cumberland County has primary responsibility and control. However, it also considers other important resources and activities of other levels of government such as Federal and State agencies. In addition, some private or quasi-public facilities such as educational institutions and some utility systems are important resources for the local community and must be taken into account when analyzing the full range of public resources available to the citizens of the County.

### ***Administrative Facilities***

Cumberland County presently owns 15 buildings within the County. The following is a brief description of the county-owned buildings:

1. Cumberland County Courthouse Complex – Located in village of Cumberland Court House, on U.S. 60. This complex houses the historic Cumberland County Courthouse and related court buildings, the County offices, the Old Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office.
2. Cumberland County Schools Complex – Located west of Cumberland Court House, on U.S. 60. This complex includes Cumberland Elementary School, Cumberland Middle School, and Cumberland High School.

3. Cumberland County Social Services and Extension Offices – Both are located on U.S. 60, just west of Cumberland Court House.
4. Cumberland County Probation Office – Located on U.S. 60, in Cumberland Court House.
5. Cumberland County Public Library – Located near the school complex, on U.S. 60 near Cumberland Court House.
6. Cumberland County Maintenance Garage – Located on Range Road in Cumberland Court House. This is the maintenance facility for the County's vehicles and equipment.
7. Cumberland County Farm Bureau – Located on U.S. 60, in Cumberland Court House.
8. Cumberland Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad – Located on State Route 13, near the intersection of U.S. 60, east of Cumberland Court House.
9. Cartersville Rescue Squad – Located on State Route 45, south of the village of Cartersville.
10. Cartersville Volunteer Fire Department – Located on State Route 45, in Cartersville.
11. Southern Cumberland Volunteer Fire Department – Located on State Route 45, between Farmville and Cumberland Court House.
12. Thomas Chapel Voting Precinct Building – Located on Cartersville Road in Cartersville.

### ***Education***

The Cumberland Public School System provides public education for County residents. Students from Cumberland County Cumberland Elementary School, Cumberland Middle School, and Cumberland High School, all located just off of U.S. 60 west of Cumberland Court House. In addition, some students attend Fuqua School in the Town of Farmville, which also serves grades pre-K through 2.

### ***Water /Sewer Service***

Cumberland County plans to have a new water treatment plant up and running in the spring of 2005. The facility will be located behind the County Courthouse, located in the village of Cumberland Court House, and draw its water from a nearby well. The project

has received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and Virginia Tobacco Commission, and the County expects to receive funding from the USDA Rural Development Program. The first phase of this project will serve from the Cumberland County Public Schools down U.S. 60 to the County Courthouse Complex, and will serve homes and businesses in between. Future phases will follow the area served by the County's public sewer system – from Route 45 South to Route 13, and along U.S. 60, with several spurs.

In addition, a study is currently underway to determine the feasibility of the feasibility of developing a raw water supply reservoir. The initial concept is a pumped storage facility that would provide several billion gallons of raw water storage with the County, with key components expected to include a dam and reservoir, James River withdrawal facilities on the County's northern border, reservoir withdrawal facilities, and transmission mains. In addition to provide water for the County, the proposed off-stream reservoir would address regional water shortages when the James River is running low. The Tobacco Commission and the Virginia Department of Health are funding this study.

The County sends its sewage to the Town of Farmville, which has a sewage treatment facility.

### ***Trash Collection***

Cumberland County does not currently provide trash or recyclable collection services for its residents. The County provides three (3) locations for residents to deposit trash and recyclables – On Route 45 at Randolph Road, on Poorhouse Road, and on Samuels Drive. These sites used to be landfills, which have been closed.

### ***Police Service***

The Cumberland County Sheriff's Office primary responsibilities include property protection, basic complaints and handling civil papers. In addition to the Sheriff's, nine (9) deputies, four (4) dispatchers and one (1) administrative staff staff the Department.

The State Police have primary responsibility over traffic investigations. Prisoners are transported to the Piedmont Regional Jail, in the Town of Farmville, for detention. In addition, the State Police will respond to calls for assistance. For better service, Cumberland County has established an emergency three-digit number (911), which can be accessed by citizens 24 hours a day.

### ***Fire Departments***

Cumberland County has three fire departments. They are the Southern Cumberland Community Fire Department, located on Route 45 at Randolph Road (just north of Farmville); the Cumberland Fire Department, located east of Cumberland Court House on Route 13 (Old Buckingham Road); and the Cartersville Fire Department, located on Route 45 in Cartersville. In addition, the Farmville Fire Department serves southern

Cumberland County, in and around the Town of Farmville. These Fire Departments have mutual aid agreements with fire departments in Farmville, Prince Edward County, Buckingham County, Amelia County, Fluvanna County, Goochland County, and Powhatan County. The County owns and maintains the fire stations and equipment, and assists with funding for general operating expenses and the purchasing of new vehicles.

The Fire Departments has access to a regional fire fighting training facility located in Blackstone, in Nottoway County. This facility is used for personal training exercises. The Department provides safety educational programs for the general public and inspects residences, businesses and industries for fire hazards. The sheriff's dispatcher is available all day for emergency calls via the emergency telephone number 911.

### ***Rescue Squad***

Cumberland County has two (2) rescue squads: the Cartersville Rescue Squad, located on Route 45 just south of Cartersville, and the Cumberland Rescue Squad, located on Route 13 east of Cumberland Court House. The Farmville Rescue Squad also serves part of Cumberland County. The Cartersville and Cumberland Rescue Squads have a combined [REDACTED] active members, of which [REDACTED] are certified emergency medical technicians (EMTs) or above. Volunteers teach CPR classes and first aid at local schools and industries.

Rescue squad service is provided 24 hours a day and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department receives calls for assistance. The enhanced 911 number is available Countywide for those requiring emergency services. Patients are transported to hospitals in Farmville, Charlottesville, or Richmond.

### ***Recreation***

Cumberland County youths can participate in local sports through the Cumberland Youth League, which provides a broad range of recreation opportunities for boys up to age 18 and girls up to age 19. Sports include baseball (age 4 and up), T-ball, soccer (age 5 and up), cheerleading, basketball and football.

Most of the outdoor events are held at the Madison Belfield, located on Route 13 east of Cumberland Court House. The basketball leagues had their games at the old Elementary School gymnasium up until the 2003-2004 season. No games were played during that season. The basketball league resumed play in the 2004-2005 season, with games being played at the Cumberland High School gymnasium.


The Heartland Golf Club, formerly known as Landing View Golf and Country Club, is located on Wedgewood Drive, near the airport. It is a semi-private club, open to members and the public, with a nine-hole golf course. This club also has a driving area, chipping range, practice bunker, swimming pool and snack bar.

The Cumberland State Forest is located north of U.S. 60, west of Route 45, and bordered by the Willis River. The area offers hunting, fishing, a sporting clay range, archery



course, trails, a picnic shelter, and permanent campsites. Located within the Cumberland State Forest is Bear Creek Lake State Park, which offers camping, picnicking, swimming, boating, and hiking.

There are boat landings on the James River at Columbia, at the Cartersville Bridge, and along the Willis River. The Appomattox River is accessible at the Appomattox River Bridge at Farmville. Organized canoeing trips are offered by the Appomattox River Company, located on North Main Street in Farmville.

The county offers a number of biking trails for riders ranging from novice to experienced off-road rider. These scenic routes include hard-surface, dirt and gravel roads. A number of convenience and country stores can be found along the way. Map  shows bike trails in the County.

### ***Library***

The Cumberland County Public Library is located on U.S. 60, west of Cumberland Court House. There are three (3) full-time staff on hand – the library director, an assistant librarian, and a library specialist – in addition to a number of volunteers who help run the library's many services. Programs and services provided by the library include Internet access, a pre-school story hour on Thursday mornings, and electronic homework assistance. The library has a rotating schedule of operation, which is as follows: Monday – 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm; Tuesday – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Wednesday – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Thursday – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Friday – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Saturday – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

### ***Health Care Facilities***

There are no hospitals in Cumberland County, but residents are in close proximity to Southside Community Hospital, located in Farmville on the Prince Edward County side. The hospital, established in 1927, serves the residents of Amelia, Appomattox, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward Counties. As the only full-service medical facility in an eight-county area, the hospital plays a significant role in Southside Virginia by providing quality, affordable healthcare to all residents regardless of their ability to pay.

The 117-bed, full-service hospital provides 24-hour physician emergency service, and intensive/coronary care unit, surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics, physical/occupational therapy, radiology, pathology and home health care. In addition, a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in nursing is available through the cooperative program of Southside Community Hospital, Lynchburg College and Longwood College. In December 2002, Southside Community Hospital earned accreditation under the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The hospital was not only accredited, it earned a score of 97 (out of 100), which ranks it in the top ten percent nationally.

Cumberland County has two (2) physicians, with many more located in Farmville and in Buckingham County. There is one dentist in Cumberland County, with several more located in Farmville and Buckingham County. Medical offices located in Cumberland County include Cartersville Family Medicine Inc., the Cumberland Family Medicine Center, and the Cumberland County Health Department. The Central Virginia Community Health Center, in northern Buckingham County, is also available to County residents. The nearest hospital facilities are located in Farmville, Richmond, Lynchburg and Charlottesville. A number of mental health facilities are located in the Town of Farmville, including Crossroads Community Services Board.

A number of nursing homes are located in Farmville. They include Trinity Mission and Holly Manor of Farmville. Holly Manor is currently undergoing an expansion, and an expansion is proposed for Trinity Mission. Nursing homes in other surrounding counties include Amelia Health Care Center of Amelia and Heritage Hall of Dillwyn. Holly Manor is part of Southside Community Nursing Home, Inc., which operates four (4) facilities in the County. The others are: Hollybrook Court Apartments, which offers residents one- and two-bedroom apartments; Holly Care, a day-care facility licensed to provide day care for up to 20 individuals; and Brookview Lodge, an assisted living facility with 92 housing units that provides managed care for residents. Brookview Lodge also provides medical care and three (3) meals per day.

### ***Communications/Utilities***

Cumberland County has telephone services with Verizon. There are currently seven (7) cellular phone towers located in the County. Dominion Virginia Power provides electric service to a majority of the county, with two independent cooperatives providing service to parts of Cumberland County. Central Virginia Electric Cooperative (based in Nelson County) provides service to the northern part of the County, while Southside Electric Cooperative (based in Nottoway County) serves the southern portion of the County.

The County has three radio stations – WFLO, WPAK, and [REDACTED], which are just north of the Town of Farmville. WBNN is nearby, in Buckingham County. Two local newspapers, *The Farmville Herald* and *The Cumberland Bulletin*, serve Cumberland County. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* also provides some coverage for the County.

### **III. Goals and Objectives.**

#### **A. Introduction**

The goals and objectives section of the Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan is intended to produce a clear and coordinated set of guidelines for local government officials, developers, citizens and other interested parties when considering matters relating to the future of Cumberland. This set of goals and objectives is intended to be comprehensive in nature covering areas of responsibility for both Cumberland County (its political and administrative leadership), and other interested parties. These other interested parties might include businesses, developers, civic groups, state and federal agencies, neighborhood associations, and individual citizens.

A goal is a general statement signifying what the County intends to accomplish over a long period of time. For community planning purposes, this period of time is normally twenty years. Goals are normally based on input received from stakeholders who represent the common and diverse interests of the County. Goals are normally reflective of the consensus views of many different stakeholders.

Objectives are more specific statements of measurable steps that can be taken towards achieving the general goal and are typically viewed as being applied over a shorter period of time, of say one to five years. This comprehensive plan is for the period of 2005 to 2010, a five-year period of time. Therefore, the objectives that follow might be best viewed as objectives that can be realistically achieved or implemented within this plan period. Again, the objectives contained herein are reflective of consensus among various County stakeholders.

This section also includes a listing of specific policies that further breakdown into more specific detail activities, strategies, or tasks that are supportive of the objective and the general goal. Policies may also be viewed as strategies aimed at achieving the more general goals, and the associated objectives.

Goals, objectives, and policies are normally broken down into several logical categories that collectively make up every aspect of the community as a whole – thus comprehensive in nature. The following categories are the basis for defining the general goals they include the following: 1) Natural Resources, 2) Agriculture, 3) Land Use, 4) Residential, 5) Economic Development, 6) Transportation and 7) Community Facilities. The plan's overall objective is to provide a plan for orderly growth so as to maintain the rural character of the County.

- B. **Natural Resources**: It is a goal of this comprehensive plan to preserve and effectively manage the natural resources of Cumberland County for the benefit of current and future citizens of Cumberland County.

Objective 1: Maintain the rural character of the County.

Objective 2: Preserve, protect and develop Cumberland County's ground and surface water resources for the use and enjoyment of current and future citizens.

Policy: Enforce soil sediment and erosion control regulations to protect surface waters.

Policy: Encourage the wise use of fertilizers to protect ground and surface waters.

Policy: Encourage other appropriate nutrient management measures to protect ground and surface waters.

Policy: Identify future water sources, ground and surface, for use by the citizens of Cumberland County.

Policy: Acquire sites for the development of future surface water impoundments.

Policy: Implement low impact development practices.

Policy: Develop overlay districts pertaining to roads and or rivers to maintain the natural character that exist in the county today.

Objective 3: Preserve Cumberland County's high air quality for the use and enjoyment of current and future citizens.

Objective 4: Preserve and develop Cumberland County's other natural resources, including the soils, the minerals, the forests, and open spaces for the optimal benefit of current and future citizens.

C. **Agriculture:** It is the goal of this comprehensive plan to protect and enhance the agricultural interests within Cumberland County.

Objective 1: Preserve prime farmland within Cumberland County.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of, and interest in, establishing agricultural and forest districts, conserve easements and such other tools within Cumberland County to conserve and protect prime farm and forestlands.

Policy: Working with individual farmers, the Farm Bureau, the U.S. Farm Service Agency, and other agencies, identify and inventory all prime farmland within Cumberland County.

Policy: Explore the feasibility and interest in amending the Cumberland County Zoning ordinance to establish higher standards such as several zoning districts to be applied specifically to prime farm land and other

farmlands of significance. One example of this might be; 1 dwelling unit per 20 acres or 5 dwelling units on 10 acres and the remainder open space.

Policy: Strengthen the County's zoning ordinance to more effectively regulate and limit development in agricultural areas that are incompatible with agricultural interests.

Objective 2: Encourage the preservation and expansion of the agricultural economy.

Policy: County ordinances, regulations & policies will be aligned with this goal.

Policy: Explore the development of new agricultural product opportunities.

Policy: Explore the development of new agricultural industries supporting local farming including those relating to processing of agricultural produce, packaging, marketing and transportation.

Policy: Encourage the use of best management practices in the conduct of all farming activities.

Policy: Strengthen agricultural education in the public schools.

- D. **Land Use**: It is the goal of this comprehensive plan to promote the wise and efficient utilization of lands within Cumberland to result in the sustainability of land resources and harmonious development of lands to serve the divergent interests and needs of the citizens of Cumberland County.

Objective 1: Through effective zoning, regulate future development to protect existing land use interests within Cumberland County.

Policy: Provide adequate transition zones between developments of higher intensity and developments of lower intensity so that developments of lower intensity are not unduly harmed.

Policy: Provide appropriate buffer areas between dissimilar and incompatible land uses to minimize unwanted adverse impacts on either use.

Policy: Provide adequate zoning setbacks.

**Policy: Enact zoning/land use regulations to restrict development in environmentally sensitive areas, including between Route 690 and the James River and between Route 600 and the Appomattox River.**

Objective 2: Through effective zoning, define appropriate areas; in size, shape and location, to accommodate anticipated future development needs within Cumberland County.

Policy: Set aside appropriate lands in the County's zoning ordinance for commercial and industrial development, with the balance being reserved for residential and agricultural (including forestry).

Policy: Locate commercially and industrially zoned lands based on appropriate planning criteria including availability of utilities, vehicular accessibility, traffic volume counts, adjacent land uses, likely impacts on adjacent land uses and other environmental factors.

Policy: Explore the appropriateness and sustainability for the creation of Service Districts within identified growth/development areas.

**Policy: Develop overlay zones to protect low-density areas and develop policies designed to direct random, decentralized development into designated core areas, such as the village area, thus relieving pressure on targeted low density areas. These designated areas shall have a development policy that encompasses both high-density residential development and high-density commercial development with certain areas having both, such as a multi-use planned unit development (PUD) that has access to both public water and public sewer.**

**Policy: Develop strategies of housing development that encourage compact, centralized housing which utilizes efficient use of existing infrastructure (utilities, transportation, fire and police services, etc.), and that encourage viable economic units (i.e. retail, services, businesses serving a concentrated local population).**

- E. **Residential:** It is the goal of this plan to provide safe, decent and quality housing opportunities for all current and future citizens of Cumberland County.

Objective 1: To preserve and protect the existing housing stock.

Policy: Eliminate substandard housing through code enforcement.

Policy: Encourage the rehabilitation where feasible of existing deficient housing.

Policy: Identify and utilize all state and federal funding sources to help low and moderate income citizens to gain access to decent and standard housing opportunities.

Policy: Establish public and private partnerships to develop programs to help preserve existing housing stock.

Policy: Protect existing housing stock from the development of incompatible land uses through careful zoning regulations.

Policy: Identify and appropriately zone areas suitable for future residential development.

Policy: Establish a Housing Code Maintenance.

Objective 2: To promote the development of future housing to include a variety of housing types to provide quality housing opportunities for citizens of all economic means.

Policy: Encourage the development of an appropriate mix of owner and rental housing opportunities to accommodate economic growth and to provide housing opportunities for all citizens

Policy: Encourage the development of housing types to accommodate various personal preferences including single-family detached, duplex housing.

Policy: Identify and utilize all state and federal programs to help low and moderate income citizens gain access to new housing opportunities, including multi-family.

Policy: Propose specific areas for residential growth, development.

**Policy: Develop strategies of housing development that encourage compact, centralized housing which utilizes efficient use of existing infrastructure (utilities, transportation, fire and police services, etc.), and that encourage viable economic units (i.e. retail, services, businesses serving a concentrated local population).**

- F. **Economic Development**: It is the goal of this plan to encourage the creation of appropriate economic opportunity for current and future citizens of Cumberland County.

Objective 1: To encourage the development of service and retail businesses to meet the needs of the current and future population of Cumberland County.

Policy: Encourage the development of retail and services businesses to efficiently serve the needs of citizens and to harmoniously integrate with the community.

Policy: Where it is appropriate, highway oriented businesses should be encouraged to locate along major transportation routes in clusters or designated areas so that the impacts on the community as a whole, the transportation systems and the surrounding land uses can be effectively regulated.

Policy: Areas that are appropriate locations for highway-oriented services should be appropriately zoned to accommodate those uses.

Policy: Develop performance standards for businesses comparable to that codified for industry. (NOTE: There was a question of do we want this in the Comprehensive Plan or somewhere else.)

Policy: Recognize that service and retail businesses provide important employment opportunities for citizens of Cumberland County and encourage the expansion of this sector of the economy through favorable public policy.

Policy: Develop necessary infrastructure to support the development and sustainability of service and retail businesses.

Objective 2: To encourage the economic development potential of Cumberland County's cultural resources.

Policy: Encourage the development of the tourism industry potential of Cumberland County.

Policy: Encourage the development of the economic development potential of water-based recreation on the Appomattox River, the James River and Bear Creek Lake, including fishing, canoeing and swimming.

Policy: Encourage the preservation and development of historic resources within Cumberland County, including historic sites, churches, cemeteries, homes, and community facilities.

Policy: Encourage the development of nature-based recreation including hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, biking, and equestrian activities.

Policy: Encourage the development of hospitality services in Cumberland County including restaurants, motels, recreation oriented businesses and bed and breakfast accommodations.

Policy: Encourage the revitalization of the Historic Cumberland Courthouse village area to develop its full potential as a tourism stop or destination.



Objective 3: To encourage the development of basic employment opportunities within Cumberland County for the resident workforce.

Policy: Encourage the development of basic light industry (manufacturing, processing, transportation) within Cumberland County.

Policy: Encourage the development of employment opportunities within Cumberland County that will offer competitive wages and fringe benefits.

Policy: Encourage the development of industry within Cumberland County that is appropriate and compatible with the surrounding land uses, transportation systems, support services, and community aspirations.

Policy: Identify and provide appropriate infrastructure to sites appropriate for the development of basic industry.

Policy: Encourage the development of the full economic potential of existing areas of economic clusters such as the Riverside Industrial Park, Cumberland Courthouse area, Cartersville and the Farmville Regional Airport.

Policy: Identify new potential sites for future industrial/business development within Cumberland County.

Policy: Provide appropriate infrastructure (water, sewer, telecommunications, and electrical power) to support basic industry in the Cumberland Courthouse area and other areas where infrastructure can be feasibly extended. This would include the extension of the runway at the Farmville Regional Airport.

Policy: Encourage the development of appropriate multi-modal transportation systems to serve the needs of industry.

Policy: Zone sites appropriate for the development of industry to accommodate those uses.

Policy: Objectively consider, evaluate, and recommend appropriate development standards to ensure harmonious integration of industrial development into the community as a whole.

Policy: Encourage public and private sector collaboration in marketing Cumberland County's assets to prospective industrial businesses.

Policy: Encourage the development of the full potential of the local labor force through the public schools and through other local and regional workforce development programs.

Objective 4: Encourage the overall strengthening and diversification of the economic base of Cumberland County to provide a sound tax base to support the provision of needed public services.

Policy: Establish an existing business and industry appreciation and support program to help address the needs of existing businesses and industries within the County and to encourage them to expand.

Policy: Establish a business/industry retention program to provide technical assistance to threatened businesses or industries.

Policy: Consider the pursuit of an enterprise zone to encourage business investments in Cumberland County.

Policy: Pursue the expansion of the Riverside Industrial Park by the addition of land for new sites.

Policy: Undertake site improvements for the Riverside Industrial Park.

Policy: Identify and consider acquiring additional industrial sites for future development.

Policy: Encourage the adaptive reuse for business purposes existing vacant buildings within the County.

Policy: Establish a citizens economic revitalization committee comprised of existing business people in the county. (Note: There was a question as to whether this belongs in the Comprehensive Plan)

Objective 5: Utilize all available resources to maximize the effectiveness of economic development efforts in Cumberland County.

Policy: Coordinate local economic development efforts with regional and state economic development efforts.

Policy: Coordinate local economic development capacity and resources with those available through other organizations including neighboring jurisdictions, the regional organizations, state agencies, federal agencies and the planning district commission.

Policy: Coordinate local economic development within Cumberland County.

Objective 6: Explore the feasibility of establishing a regional airport authority charged

with the responsibility of more fully developing the airports economic development potential.

- G. **Transportation**: It is the goal of this plan to provide a county wide multi-modal transportation system that will effectively serve the current and future needs of Cumberland County.

Objective 1: To encourage the development of an effective and efficient system of highways, streets and roads throughout Cumberland County to serve the multitude of needs of citizens, workers and travelers.

Policy: Maintain visual experience along highways.

Policy: Identify and maintain existing and predicted community routes.

Policy: Encourage the appropriate upgrade and development of the key arterial highways passing through Cumberland County including U.S. Route 60 and Virginia Routes 45 and 13.

Policy: Explore feasibility of implementing recommendations of the U.S. Route 60 Corridor Study.

Policy: Encourage, where traffic demands warrant, the appropriate upgrade of existing unimproved, graded and drained, gravel and soil surfaced roads within Cumberland County.

Policy: Pursue the extension of four-lane divided highway facilities from Powhatan County to Cumberland Courthouse.

Policy: Pursue a corridor study for Virginia Route 45 from Farmville to Cumberland Courthouse to identify specific needs for upgrade improvements.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of developing a second bridge across the Appomattox River from Cumberland to the Town of Farmville.

Policy: Seek grant funding for the implementation of special transportation enhancement projects.

Policy: Identify roads appropriate for the Rural Rustic Roads program or programs with similar objectives.

Policy: Develop overlay district to create a scenic highway (i.e. Rt. 13 and possible other secondary roads.) Develop standards that would enhance the natural beauty along these county roads and limit growth.

Policy: Define policy of subdivision and zoning on various categories of roads including dead-end roads (including possible transportation overlay zones). Discourage changes, which would impede smooth, efficient & rapid transportation on these routes.

Policy: Establish development standards for transportation overlay zones to implement.

Objective 2: Encourage the development of an appropriate and efficient system of bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian facilities throughout Cumberland County.

Policy: Adopt by reference as a part of this Comprehensive Plan the Piedmont Regional Bicycle Plan (adopted January 2001), specifically those portions that relate to bicycle routes and facilities within Cumberland County.

Policy: Pursue the implementation of bicycle facilities along the routes defined in the Piedmont Regional Bicycle Plan.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of developing rails to trails facilities along the Norfolk and Southern Rail Road line from High Bridge to the Town of Farmville.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of acquiring High Bridge as a potential link in a future rails to trails development.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of linking Cumberland Courthouse with Bear Creek Lake State Park by bicycle, pedestrian and/or equestrian

Policy: Improve pedestrian accommodations within the Cumberland Courthouse community.

Policy: Seek grant funds for special enhancement projects involving bike, pedestrian and equestrian facilities.

Objective 3: Encourage the development of the maximum potential of the Farmville Regional Airport in Cumberland County and to work towards the establishment of a regional airport authority.

Policy: Partner with Farmville, Prince Edward County and Buckingham County to explore the feasibility of establishing a regional airport board charged with the responsibility of more fully developing the airports economic development potential.

Policy: Pursue the extension of runways 4,400 to 5,000 feet in length to accommodate larger aircraft.

Policy: Pursue the construction of parallel taxiways to runways.

Policy: Pursue improvements to apron to accommodate heavier aircraft.

Policy: Pursue the addition of more hanger space to accommodate more aircraft.

Policy: Pursue the development of emergency generators to serve the airport in times of power outage.

Policy: Seek grant funding from the Virginia Department of Aviation and the Federal Aviation Administration for needed airport improvements.

Policy: Encourage the development of public infrastructure (water, sewer, telecommunications, electrical power) serving the Airport and surrounding lands.

Policy: Encourage the improvement of road facilities from major points of origin to the Airport (Farmville, Cumberland Courthouse area, Virginia Route 45, and points beyond).

Policy: Explore the feasibility of developing a new bridge across the Appomattox to improve vehicular access from Farmville to the Airport.

- H. **Community Facilities:** It is the goal of this plan to provide adequate community facilities in support of the needs of the current and future citizens of Cumberland County.

Objective 1: Develop and maintain high standards of excellence and efficiency for all public school facilities within Cumberland County.

Policy: Develop a policy that promotes the delivery of quality education including the attraction and retention of quality educators.

Policy: Adopt and maintain a capital improvements program for all public school facilities within Cumberland County to ensure that all school facilities are well maintained and meet all applicable standards; that facilities are efficient and functionally appropriate to meet current and foreseen instructional requirements at all grade levels; and that school facilities can accommodate appropriate technology advances in computers, telecommunications and the sciences.

Policy: Develop middle and high school facilities for Cumberland County.

Policy: Develop the Luther P. Jackson Vocational /Technology Addition at the County Schools Complex.

Policy: Develop the Cumberland Elementary School Addition at the County School Complex. (Note: There was a question as to whether this belongs in the Comprehensive Plan)

Policy: Improve Administrative Facilities at the County School Complex. (Note: There was a question as to whether this belongs in the Comprehensive Plan)

Policy: Explore cooperative relationships with neighboring school divisions to share facilities and to improve overall cost effectiveness of school investments.

Objective 2: Develop and maintain appropriate local government administrative facilities to efficiently serve the needs of the citizens of Cumberland County.

Policy: Establish Human Resources to develop a policy to attract and maintain qualified staff in the County Government.

Policy: Preserve the historic Cumberland Courthouse Square along with all of the historic buildings.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of developing a Cumberland Courthouse Square Historic District and the establishment of design guidelines so that the surrounding environment is developed in a style sympathetic and supportive of the historic character of the public buildings.

Policy: Adopt and maintain a capital improvements program for all local government facilities to ensure that local government facilities are well maintained, efficient and functionally appropriate to meet all the local government program requirements in Cumberland County.

Policy: Develop a long-term master plan for local government facilities to accommodate foreseen program requirements for a twenty-year period.

Objective 3: Develop and maintain appropriate emergency services facilities to efficiently and effectively serve the needs of the citizens and industries of Cumberland County including those services relating to police protection, fire protection and emergency medical services.

Policy: Adopt and maintain a capital improvements program for all emergency services facilities to ensure that those facilities are well maintained, efficient and functionally appropriate to meet current and foreseen needs of the citizens.

Policy: Develop a long-term master plan for the County's emergency services facilities to accommodate the foreseen emergency requirements for all areas of the County for a twenty-year period. This would include the provision of appropriate and interoperable communication systems and technology for E911, etc.

Policy: Support Southside Community Hospital to help to develop the best possible emergency medical (and long term) services for the citizens of Cumberland County and the surrounding region.

Policy: Support the development of other basic healthcare services within Cumberland County including medical, optical, dental, elderly care, pediatrics, pharmacies, etc.

Policy: Establish and maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions and procedures for effective response and coordination of services in times of emergency.

Policy: Develop appropriate hazard mitigation measures to afford protection against the impacts of the full range of natural hazards (floods, winds, drought, etc.) and man-made hazards (hazardous materials, biosolids, etc.).

Policy: Develop appropriate "Homeland Security" measures to afford protection against intentional acts of terror or civil disruption.

Objective 4: Develop and maintain appropriate parks, recreation and open space facilities to efficiently and effectively serve the needs of the citizens of Cumberland County.

Policy: Develop and maintain parks, recreation and open space facilities distributed geographically throughout the County so that all citizens may have reasonably comparable and fair access to those facilities (some in the north, some in the central and some in the south).

Policy: Develop and maintain parks, recreation and open space facilities that capitalize on and enhance the County's unique natural and manmade environmental features including rivers (the James, Willis and Appomattox), lakes, historic sites and buildings.

Policy: Maintain scenic and natural buffer areas along and adjacent to the James, Willis and Appomattox rivers.

Policy: Develop and maintain parks, recreation and open space facilities that provide balanced opportunities for citizens of all age groups and social and economic backgrounds.

Policy: Work with state agencies to develop and promote Bear Creek Lake State Park.

Policy: Explore feasibility of establishing public/private partnerships, special authorities, boards or committees to help develop, maintain and operate parks, recreation and open space facilities within Cumberland County.

Policy: Identify and preserve scenic open spaces of significance within the county.

Policy: Encourage best management practices for Cumberland State Forest to preserve the asset and develop its full economic potential.

Objective 5: Develop and maintain appropriate public utilities to support current and future growth of all types in Cumberland County.

Policy: Maximize the utilization of existing utility systems (sewer) in the Cumberland Courthouse area by hooking up new users.

Policy: Develop new public water service in the Cumberland Courthouse area.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of extending public water and sewer services to the Farmville Regional Airport area.

Policy: Explore the feasibility of extending public water and sewer services to other high growth areas within Cumberland County (near Farmville).

Policy: Encourage the improvement of voice, data, etc. communications services.

Policy: Develop and maintain appropriate and cost effective solid waste management facilities, services and programs to serve the needs of citizens, businesses, industries and the environment.



